Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-88-196 *11 October 1988*

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NOTICE TO READERS: For three months beginning in November, material formerly appearing in the JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT will be published on a trial basis in the FBIS LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT.

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Cuba

Aldana Denies Agreement on Troop Withdrawal

FL1110015788 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Carlos Aldana, head of the Cuban delegation to the quadripartite talks on the South African conflict, categorically denied today a presumed agreement on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. In statements made to the press at UN headquarters, Aldana denied reports by the U.S. newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES, which said that during the talks in New York an agreement had been reached on a timetable for the withdrawal of the Cuban troops.

[Begin Aldana recording] No agreement has been reached. Furthermore, there are no perspectives for an agreement. In other words, the positions examined during the talks held here in New York have emphasized the differences that exist. They have also emphasized the impossibility of overcoming the differences, which are still quite large, that exist between the positions of the parties. [end recording]

Conditions 'Being Discussed'

FL1110130988 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Carlos Aldana, chief of the Cuban delegation to the quadripartite talks on southwest Africa, has said in New York that there currently is no probability of reaching an agreement.

Aldana thus refuted statements in THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday that indicated an agreement on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was imminent. He said what is actually being discussed, more or less, is not a timetable, but how that withdrawal should be undertaken and under what conditions.

Aldana warned that the withdrawal should be done in an orderly and honorable manner. Our troops do not withdraw in defeat like the U.S. troops did from Vietnam.

He also said that the negotiating process has not been interrupted and no date has been fixed for the next round of quadripartite talks.

Aldana later met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. He said he briefed Perez de Cuellar on the results of the informal meetings held in New York among the Cuban, Angolan, South African, and U.S. delegations.

Malmierca Briefs Perez de Cuellar on 4-Way Talks

FL0710194588 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1918 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has briefed UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the current state of the quadripartite talks.

Also participating in the meeting was Carlos Aldana, secretary of the PCC Central Committee and head of the Cuban delegation to the quadripartite negotiations on southwest Africa.

According to Alcibiades Hidalgo, spokesman for the Cuban delegation, Malmierca and the other members of the delegation and Perez de Cuellar exchanged information and opinions on the current state of the process seeking a negotiated solution to the conflict in the southwest African region.

The Cuban delegate also said that a fundamental aspect of the negotiations is the fulfillment of UN Security Council Resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia.

PCC Economic Departments Discuss Plan for 1989

FL1010144188 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1302 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] A national meeting of the PCC economic departments has just been held. It was attended by second secretaries and members of the bureaus of the provincial committees [of the PCC Central Committee] and the special committee of the Isle of Youth.

Lionel Soto, secretary of the PCC Central Committee, referred to the information published on the joint meeting of the Politburo and Secretariat held from 15 to 17 September. That meeting, under the leadership of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, analyzed the economic and social situation of the country and called for confronting existing problems, as well as strengthening the rectification process.

Lionel Soto said that it is now necessary to more thoroughly examine the process for drafting next year's economic and social plan and, at the same time, analyze how the party will put into practice the solutions that have been suggested.

At the national meeting of the PCC economic departments, Soto referred to the guidelines given by Fidel to substantially increase production—especially sugar production during the next harvest—and to increase exportable products. He said that this increased labor is becoming consolidated and true productive feats are being attained by the working class, on the part of technicians, specialists, and the working masses who reflect the willingness to overcome all difficulties.

Antonio Rodriguez Maurell, president of the Juceplan [Central Planning Board], discussed the drafting of the economic plan for next year and he stressed the possibilities and difficulties that currently present themselves, above all, in matters related to imports. He said there is a single economic plan, and stressed the decisive importance of controlling its application. The proposal will be presented to the government within 1 month, added Rodriguez Maurell.

During the meeting, Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas analyzed the situation of exportable goods and he referred to the decisive importance of fulfilling tourism plans.

Francisco Linares, minister president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, reported on the tasks being developed for the drafting of next year's labor plan to more rationally use the labor force.

Several speeches were made during the course of the meeting by the top cadres of the party from various provinces, in which attention was called to the favorable political climate that exists among the workers to fulfill the directives of the party and government.

Ministers, department chiefs of the Central Committee, and other party and state officials also spoke at the meeting.

Ties With Bolivia Raised to Ambassadorial Level

FL1010131288 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal has announced in La Paz that the governments of his country and Cuba have decided to elevate the status of their diplomatic relations to the ambassadorial level in Havana and La Paz.

Further Castro Comments on Chilean Plebiscite

FL0710180988 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0916 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpt] During the inauguration of important social projects in Havana, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, talked to journalists covering the event. He referred to an unquestionably current international event—the triumph of the no-vote in Chile.

[Begin Castro recording] I was sure they would vote against him. It has actually happened. Now, what will happen later remains to be seen. Yesterday, I also heard various hypotheses regarding what Pinochet would do. We will be able to have a better idea in the next few days. But I repeat what I said yesterday, that the history of Chile will be different from 5 October on. Pinochet fell into his own trap.

It is possible he might have imagined that with all the campaigns he carried out, with the massive use of television and all the media, with the advice of all the great experts and everything, in his attempt to sow uncertainty, concerns, fear, [words indistinct] and that if they voted against him there would be chaos, catastrophe, deluge. The effects of all that propaganda remained to be seen.

But something was proven. I said yesterday that not even use of all those means made it possible to achieve what would have been a very strange occurrence; that is, for the majority of the Chilean population to have voted for him. I also said one of the hypotheses is that he will try to be a candidate against a divided opposition. I have to say that what has damaged these processes the most in these 15 years has been the division among the opposition forces. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Commentary Urges Reflection

PA0810220188 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Oct 88

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Less than 1 month before the 15th anniversary of the downfall of the Popular Unity in Chile, General Augusto Pinochet has suffered his first, though predicted, bloodless defeat when the people voted to prevent him from staying in power until 1997.

Amid an atmosphere of extraordinary expectations, which was tense at times, the vote counting started and little by little it revealed the results of one of the most controversial political processes in Latin America in the past few years.

Amid inexplicable delays by the government, and opposition suspicion that a fraud was being prepared to proclaim the victory of the sole candidate, it was finally revealed that the no-vote had won.

Immediately after Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez announced the government's acceptance of the rejection of Pinochet continuing in power, Patricio Aylwin, spokesman for the National Command for the No-Vote, urged Chileans to celebrate the opposition's triumph in their homes. His advice was sound because hours after the plesbicite, there were rumors about preparations for provocations by certain sectors of the Armed Forces, perhaps to spoil the plebiscite results.

We must reaffirm what we have said on several occasions: 5 October marks the beginning of a new political phase for this South American country. Achieving unity is a challenge for the opposition. There is an undeniable fact: The Chilean Armed Forces suffered a blow to their morale, but their role as a powerful repressive apparatus, which they have ruthlessly displayed, continues. Therefore, this is perhaps the first obstacle for the regime's opponents.

Justified joy must now give way to reflection and an organized plan to oppose, in free elections in about 1 year, the person who was the sole candidate. Given that the trimph of the no-vote begins a new phase of Chilean political life that should lead to the country's democratization, the military must now become accustomed to seeing its role in national politics progressively decrease.

The path to genuine democracy in Chile is open. Traveling along it is no easy task, but those who voted against Pinochet will accept the challenge.

Abrantes Welcomes Nicaragua's Borge, Delegation
FL0710131588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, member of the FSLN National Directorate and minister of the interior of the sister Republic of Nicaragua, has arrived in our country on an official working visit. Borge and his delegation were met by Division General Jose Abrantes Fernandez, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the interior; other members of the high command; and officials of the Minint [Ministry of the Interior]. During his stay in our country, Tomas Borge will have an intensive schedule of activities and meetings with leaders and officials of various Cuban institutions.

De la Madrid Official Visit Set for 31 Oct-2 Nov
FL0710142888 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will pay an official and friendly visit to Cuba from 31 October to 2 November. The president noted that his visit responds to Mexico's policy of internationalist pluralistic communication and to the need to strengthen ties with Cuba.

Mexican Official Views Scientific Cooperation
FL0810165088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2340 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Interview with Jose Gerstl Valenzuela, director general of the National Council for Science and Technology of Mexico, and Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, by Felix Fernando Garrido for the "Exclusivo" program on 7 October—live]

[Text] [Garrido] Mr Gerstl Valenzuela, we would like your evaluation of the cooperation agreement that has just been signed by Cuba and Mexico.

[Gerstl Valenzuela] [Words indistinct] the signing of the agreement. It is very satisfactory for us to confirm a 14-year relationship in the field of science and technology. This is a relationship that is expanding and one in which projects are carried out—last year they were carried out at a rate of 92 percent, and this year at a rate of 87 percent. I am referring to fulfillment of these projects during specified periods of time, although it does not mean that they are completed. The efforts put forth by both groups of scientists and technicians are very satisfactory.

[Garrido] What did today's meeting between Mexico and Cuba involve?

[Gerstl Valenzuela] This is the conclusion of the work by the joint commission, which has been meeting this week. Before coming here for the meeting, we prepared by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating the projects. Since not all projects can be supported by both Cuba and Mexico, we must make a careful selection that is convenient for both parties and for which there are facilities to carry them out. From this [word indistinct] we arrived at 116 projects that are important. Last year we had 97. The relationship is clearly expanding.

[Garrido] We would also like to take advantage of the presence of Comrade Melendez and ask him to evaluate this important meeting.

[Melendez] I can support what Lic Gerstl Valenzuela [as heard] said in the sense that both parties have confirmed that this program has developed in a fruitful and satisfactory manner. Furthermore, in the remaining months we will be able to confirm that we will carry out the projects at a higher rate than last (?year). This is a program that allows Mexico and Cuba to familiarize themselves with their achievements and developments in the fields of science and technology. As was said during the signing of the agreement, this is part of the great pleasure we take in the relations that exist between Cuba and Mexico. The relationship is based on existing economic and industrial cooperation programs, as well as on our commercial trade, which increased significantly last year. We will also bear witness to this relationship in an important event that will take place between Cuba and Mexico within the next few weeks—the visit of President de la Madrid, which our entire nation already knows about. We, along with President Fidel Castro, will have the opportunity to welcome him and show him the hospitality of our people.

[Garrido] Minister, what are the main areas covered by these agreements?

[Melendez] I would say they include practically the whole field of scientific, technical, and technological developments [words indistinct] medicine, biotechnology, genetics, agriculture. We have analyzed our experiences in irrigation, seed banks, education, student exchange. We also analyze our experiences in construction and in different spheres of the construction industry. I can say that practically all the branches and all ares of research, at one point or another, have been part of our program.

Joint Cooperation Accord Signed

FL0810154088 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Upon the conclusion of the 11th session of the Joint Commission for Scientific-Technical Cooperation, Cuba and Mexico signed a plan for 149 cooperation projects that will be in effect until 1989. The agreement includes exchanges of students, specialists, and publications. It will also include cooperation in the areas of agriculture, fishing, health, industry, construction, and basic research.

More on Cooperation Projects

PA1010231788 Havana International Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Jose Gerstl Valenzuela, director general of the National Council for Science and Technology of Mexico, has said here in Havana that in a world so used to seeing unfair trade practices and a worsening of the economic crisis, the commercial relations between his country and Cuba are an example for all underdeveloped nations. Gerstl Valenzuela talked to reporters after participating in the 11th session of the Joint Commission for Scientific-Technical Cooperation held between Cuba and Mexico.

He said: I am very pleased at the talks held with the Cuban authorities, with whom we discussed cooperation with honesty and mutual respect.

After noting that 149 cooperation projects in various areas were signed on this occasion, the Mexican official said his country is willing to cooperate with Cuba in its industrial development, and he put Mexico's modest achievements in the scientific and technical fields at the island's disposal.

Haitians Stranded by Hurricane Flown Home

FL0910002188 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The first Haitian plane to land on Cuban territory in 30 years arrived at the Mariana Grajales airport in Guantanamo. The plane came to Cuba to fly home 116 Haitians who were at sea during Hurricane Gilbert and ended up on the shores of Guantanamo. A government official, along with a representative from the Red Cross of Haiti, has also come to Cuba for the first time. He is the legal adviser for the Foreign Ministry, (Wie-Marie Lowies).

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker, in Spanish] On behalf of the Haitian Government and each member of this delegation, I would like to thank Cuban Red Cross officials and the permanent representative in Cuba of the International Red Cross Committee. I think it is a very important event because it has been a very long time—more than 30 years—since a Haitian plane landed in Cuban territory. I hope this is not the last time such a thing happens. I would also like to extend a very fraternal greeting to the Cuban people from the Haitian people. Thank you very much. [end recording]

This last group brings to approximately 900 the total of Haitians who have left for home since 1986, after receiving medical assistance, housing, and all [passage indistinct] from our country. Three separate flights were necessary to ensure the return of the 106 [figure as heard] Haitians to their country. The last flight was this afternoon.

Further on Meeting of Bloc Culture Ministers

Rodriguez Receives Ministers

FL0710162688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2314 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received this afternoon the culture ministers from socialist countries who are attending the 14th ministerial meeting being held in Havana. Ministers and other representatives of culture ministries from friendly countries are also attending this conference as guests.

After welcoming the participants to the meeting and noting the significance of Cuba's contribution in hosting the conference in our country, the Cuban leader discussed the importance of culture during these decisive moments in which a sure path to dialogue is being opened as a substitute to international military conflict. Culture is an instrument of peace. In the great and unceasing ideological battle between capitalism and socialism, culture is an instrument for the socialist struggle, said Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

Conference Concludes

FL0710190788 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The 14th meeting of culture ministers from socialist countries being held in the Palace of Conventions has ended. There were some remarks by the Soviet minister of culture and a farewell given by Cuban official Armando Hart. In their 14th meeting, the culture ministers stressed the imperative need to find an industrial and technological answer, within the framework of CEMA cooperation, to better enable us to supply our own needs at the level of contemporary cultural industry. Likewise, the conference's final declaration proposes the establishment of a world consultative council. This council would bring together prestigious intellectuals from around the world. UNESCO will be consulted on this matter.

Speaking in the name of all the culture ministers at the conference, Yuriy [as heard] Zakharov of the Soviet Union thanked Cuba for the hospitality shown them. Armando Hart summarized the work done during the past 4 days. He said:

[Begin recording] There are new times, new ways, new styles, but the important thing, the essential thing, to come from our meeting is that we have at least opened a door to concretely analyze the basic technological problems in culture, and to mount a major socialist offensive in the field of culture. [end recording]

Women's Conference Delegates Tour Prison

FL0710162188 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The participants in the third continental women's meeting have held several activities as part of what the conferees designated Cuba Day. The delegates visited the Ernesto "Che" Guevara Pioneer central palace. There they were able to view the development of career guidance and counseling in our country, whereby members of the young generations are instructed and advised with regard to choosing careers. At one point in the tour, at the request of the participants, Vilma Espin, president of the FMC [Cuban Women's Federation], explained the duty of this organization.

[Begin Espin recording] At first we decided that all the women in Cuba, even the housewives—because this was done through all of the state and mass organizations—should have at least a sixth-grade education. [end recording]

During the visit there was a touching conversation between the women and the children. The women asked several questions about our educational system and the children were interested in the Latin American reality.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] As a native organization, we have proposed an educational alternative—bilingual and intercultural—which has, incidentally, been put into effect for the first time this year. Now we are discussing it at the government level so that this kind of education can be acknowledged.

[Second unidentified speaker] I believe that this visit has not only been good, but also an unforgettable experience for us. It made it possible for us to talk with the children and to know their views on the future. Sincerely, it has seemed to me.... [changes thought] For a moment I thought I was Cuban and had a child here in one of these workshops. It's astounding. [end recording]

The western women's prison was another place visited by the delegates. The director of the penitentiary, (Yvonne Valdez), welcomed the participants, who received a thorough and detailed explanation of the inmates' living conditions and the many activities that they have as part of their rehabilitation process. The visitors toured the jail and talked with the inmates. Our reporter, (Hilda Prieto), asked some of the delegates for their impressions.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] This jail shows what jails in all countries should be like— not a depository of people, but rather a place where a person can reconstruct his life and become useful for himself and his people.

[Second unidentified speaker] When you visit a jail in Venezuela you see aggression in the inmates' faces. It's fantastic to see how here, in your jail, the inmates have a task to accomplish.

[Third unidentified speaker] It surprises me to see the system that you have been able to implement. This is what we, who are working in the penal system and are concerned about penitentiaries, would like to have in our own countries. [end recording]

The delegates to the continental women's conference held a meeting this afternoon with Cuba's ecumenical council. Religious personalities from the continent were interested in the relations that exist between the church and the revolutionary government. (Raul Suarez), president of the ecumenical council, said that the relations are excellent and respectful. In the meeting, they talked about the objectives of the christian conference for international and Latin American peace. The ecumenical council is preparing for this conference, in which they will declare themselves in favor of peace and disarmament, objectives also shared by the delegates to the continental [women's] meeting.

Athletes Prepare for 1992 Olympics in Barcelona

FL1010130388 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Cuban athletes have begun their training for the new olympiad that will end with the Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain in 1992. The official announcement was made during a ceremony at the main center for the national selection of teams in Havana.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer on Existence of Corrupt Officials

FL1010163788 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0959 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] President Joaquin Balaguer has admitted the existence of corrupt officials in his government, although he says he is confronting the acts [words indistinct] in his administration.

The leader said that he has not protected any official from justice. It is very difficult to prove acts of corruption, he said.

Dr Balaguer attributed the deterioration of state resources to management from the past Jorge Blanco administration. The president added that corruption is a product of the times the country and the world are living through.

Visibly upset, the president of the Republic denied the statement made by former President Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco that if one were to cut off the hands of corrupt officials, Balaguer's government would be handless.

President Balaguer once again promised that if he is brought proof of acts of corruption in any state institution, he will begin proceedings against those who violate the laws.

Teachers Group Begins 3-Day National Strike

FL1010165388 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0950 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Today, Monday, the Dominican Association of Teachers [ADP] will begin a 3-day national strike. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday all work at the nation's public schools will be at a standstill.

The ADP is demanding increased wages, the rehiring of teachers who were laid off, renovation of schools, and the implementation of the school [word indistinct].

Education Secretary Lic Pedro Pichardo described these work stoppages as unjust.

The ADP general strike begins today at 0800.

Haiti

Opposition Leader Killed in Military Post Attack

PA0910162288 Paris AFP in Spanish 1618 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 9 Oct (AFP)--The Haitian Ministry of the Interior and Defense announced today that Haitian opposition leader Luc Innocent was killed by the Army yesterday, Saturday, during an attack by an armed group from the Dominican Republic on the Fonds Verette military post in southeastern Haiti.

In the communique, the ministry cites reports issued by the Armed Forces General Command. Innocent's bullet-ridden body was shown on government television.

An Innocent supporter who was captured said on television that the group, which had been fairly large when it left the Dominican Republic, consisted of only nine poorly armed men at the time of the attack.

Innocent, who headed a small radical group called the Revolutionary Union Movement, was from Cap-Haitien, the country's second-largest city, 260 km north of Port-au-Prince. An opponent of the regimes of Francois and Jean Claude Duvalier in the 1960's, Innocent went into exile in Venezuela in the 1960's and 1970's. On his return to Haiti, after the fall of the Duvalier regime, the opposition kept him at arms length, considering him a hothead who could not be trusted.

Aristide Ordered To Leave Country by 17 Oct

FL1010154288 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Contrary to a message issued by Father Jean Bertrand Aristide on 4 October, in which he said he had received permission from his superiors to stay and work at St Jean Bosco—although he did say, in that message, that he did not know for how long he could stay, how long this would last—this morning Father Aristide issued another message, which he brought here.

He says: Another messenger from Rome has brought a letter for me, in the presence of two Salesian priests serving as witnesses.

This latest letter, as well as all the preceding ones, are in my files. I have been ordered to leave my country in 10 days—thus, at the latest by 17 October 1988, a date that is not a date just like any other precisely because it is 17 October 1988.

I am sharing this news with you, as I pray you to remain calm. Let the Holy Spirit guide you so that you may always do what is beautiful—beautiful for our church, beautiful for our country, and beautiful for a more beautiful tomorrow.

Still in cooperation with Father Jacques Mesidor, I am asking God to bless you and to walk at your side for the deliverance of the country you love so very much.

Your brother, Father Jean Bertrand Aristide.

Thus, that is a press release just sent by Father Jean Bertrand Aristide. He sent us a copy here, informing us that he has been asked to leave Haiti by 17 October 1988 at the latest.

Desdunes Clashes Leave 1 Dead, 5 Wounded

FL0710175188 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] One person was killed and five others wounded in Desdunes by soldiers who appear to be collaborating with the thugs [Sans Manman], according to reports we have received. This happened in Desdunes, and our correspondent in Saint-Marc will give us some details:

[Correspondent Fernand Biyou] There is a big [words indistinct] in Desdunes that requires a rapid solution. Desdunes is divided into two opposing camps, each in its own neighborhood.

There is a steamroller [rouleau compresseur; traditionally, a crowd that can be put into the streets at short notice at someone's command] in [words indistinct] north. There is a group representing the democratic sector in the settlement called Lot Bo Kanal in the southern part of Desdunes.

The latter group, represented by three democratic organizations—the Committee for the Defense of Peasants' Rights, CDDP; the (Decao Ojed) Youth Organization; and the Association of Planters of Desdunes, APD—held a conference on Thursday at which it noted the presence of certain military personnel from the area: Lieutenant Bazile and three soldiers. The people from these democratic organization accused the leaders of the steamroller—for example, (Nevaillant Eugene); Judge (Jean-Baptiste Julien), the former development adviser; and Mayor (Altenor Mezeus)—of being macoutes. Also, many of the speakers at the conference said that the leaders of the steamroller are to this day running Desdunes and that they commit many abuses. They said that these men take the peasants' lands away from them, and that they fired on the democrats during the election riots. They also stated that there is no one capable of arresting them.

Immediately following the conference, at which they asked for the removal and disarming of the macoutes in Desdunes—who still constitute a strong force—they took to the streets to shut down the court and city hall in Desdunes until other, credible people could be chosen for these posts. Along the way, the demonstrators ran head-on into the steamroller people, who confiscated their drums. Rocks began to fly, hurled by both sides. Sergeant (Detroit Valcourt) from the Desdunes barracks fired into the air to disperse the demonstrators.

For its part, the steamroller attempted to enter Lot Bo Kanal to do battle with the demonstrators. A second hailstorm of rocks began. This same sergeant, who was with the steamroller, fired on the demonstrators. (Yves Harold Nassim) was hit by a bullet in the chest and died instantly. (Andre Joseph) was shot in the foot. Four other people were hit by rocks and injured. [passage omitted]

An appeal for help has gone out to the pertinent authorities to come and try to put a stop to this grave situation in Desdunes, because it has deteriorated completely!

This is Fernand Biyou, Radio Soleil, Saint-Marc.

Artibonite Residents Denounce Macoute Activity

FL1010194488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] It seems that a series of individuals involved in the abuses that were being committed under the Namphy regime have been arrested in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite. However, the journalists who went to the scene to verify the arrests were subjected to heavy pressure, and their cassettes were even confiscated.

Also, events in Desdunes have taken a truly sensational turn. Soldiers came from elsewhere to arrest the people who shot at the population during the last demonstration in Desdunes on 6 October. However, instead of arresting the thugs [San Mamans], they pressured the relatives of the victims, and it is these relatives who have had to flee. Thus, the population of Desdunes is calling on national and international opinion to take a close look at the macoute soldiers, thugs, and detectives [attaches], who are continuing to cause a great deal of disturbance in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, Desdunes, and the entire Artibonite Valley in general.

Moreover, in Mont Organise, northeastern Haiti, the team of thugs is still at work. The thugs are persecuting and pressuring the church, and it seems mass cannot even be celebrated in that town because of their trouble-making. These thugs are the same people who used to operate under the Namphy regime.

Further on Artibonite Events

FL1010230488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] There have been searches effected in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, and several people apparently accused of evil actions—tontons macoutes, detectives [attaches], and others—were arrested. However, journalists who had been authorized by barracks authorities to enter the jail were surrounded and pressured by soldiers. Their cassettes were then confiscated.

[Begin correspondent's report] There is a contrary wind blowing in certain towns in the lower Artibonite Valley.

On Sunday, 9 October, at around 0900, a group of some 10 soldiers from Gonaives came to search Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite. They were led by Sub-Lieutenant (Jeanty J.P. Georges).

According to rather confused reports circulating, it seems the soldiers from Gonaives, together with a few members of the Armed Forces from Petite Riviere, captured several macoute thugs who had not been disarmed—among them (Jean Fadael), a former militia commandant; (Leo Charles) and (Leroy Joseph), big merchants; (Marc Andre Grand-Pierre), owner of a small grocery store; (Ernest Jean-Marie), a former magistrate under Duvalier; and Ulrick Louis, son of Charite Louis. These men were reportedly arrested.

When we went to the barracks to verify the report, the provisional commander of the military sub-district, Sergeant (Lesage), invited us take a look inside the cells just to see if there were really macoutes there whom they were protecting—like the sergeant thought the press had reported.

After the sergeant opened two (?cells) for us, Sub-Lieutenant (Jeanty J.P. Georges) and a dozen soldiers surrounded us. A soldier from the tactical unit in Gonaives ordered us to give him our cassette. We gave it to him. They threatened to arrest us and give us a good smack or two. They threw us out [words indistinct] and the soldiers told us never to set foot in the barracks again.

Some 2 hours or so later, a correspondent of Radio Haiti [-Inter] (?went) to seek information at the barracks. The business of seizing the cassette was discussed. A soldier from Gonaives reportedly said that he confiscated the cassette because we were going to check the prison without greeting a single soldier. The soldier reportedly said he would like to give our colleague the confiscated cassette, but that we had to be present.

When we arrived, this was not at all the case. The soldier asked us, instead, to go and get our (?recorder), so he could confiscate it. However, the population advised us not to give them our working tools. Thus, we left our colleague on the (steps) to the barracks. As we sought to travel to where we are at present, we heard lots of shouting coming from the direction of the barracks.

This is (Milceus Gaspard), Radio Soleil, Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite.

Aquin Youths Report Armed Individuals in Area

FL0810013388 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] In a press release, the young people of the 11th communal section of Aquin report that armed individuals have sought refuge in that area. These men have big weapons, such as Uzis and machineguns. According to the young people, these men, with the complicity of the section chief, have threatened the peasants in the area.

Therefore, the young people of the 11th communal section of Aquin are asking the new district commander to give the section a new section chief, replacing the current one, who does not act in the interests of the area residents.

Soldiers Break Up Cotes de Fer People's Court

FL0710214388 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Last Friday night, a team of soldiers from Jacmel in battle gear—wearing helmets and carrying heavy-caliber weapons—appeared in the Cotes de Fer area. They shot off many rounds where a group of young people had set up a people's court in order to ask a number of individuals to give an account of what they had done with the Haitian people's property.

That same evening, 30 September, the Justice Ministry issued a communique in which it declared that it was most surprised to hear that a group of individuals in Cotes de Fer had set up a people's court to try and sentence people who had been employed in the public administration under the former regime. [passage omitted]

According to two young people from Cotes de Fer, many people had to take to the woods in the area on Friday and Saturday. The soldiers who had gone to the area declared that they were on a special mission to install a new commanding officer, whereas the soldiers from the subdistrict of Cotes de Fer had already, together with the population, chosen a commander.

The population was invited to gather before the barracks Saturday morning for the installation, but the population did not attend.

According to these same two youths, the soldiers were looking for the persons making up this court. They said they didn't want to hear any more about this business of a people's court—that it was not in the best interests of the military government or of the Americans, because it was communist.

According to reports, the soldiers left Cotes de Fer Sunday morning, but the commanding officer they installed remained in the area. The young people say they had planned to go to several more communal sections, but with the arrival of the soldiers, they had to flee. They said that this experience allowed them to discover just how much money a number of individuals were stealing from the Haitian people, and they think the work of justice should continue. Here is how this people's court worked. We will listen to an account.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] We set up a people's court in an attempt to recover community property that was in the hands of a series of Duvalierist bigshots in the area.

[Reporter] Can you tell us how this court that you set up worked? What did you do there?

[Speaker] First, we would gather the entire population. Then we would summon those responsible for community property. We asked them questions to find out how they were managing the people's property and what they had done with the money and with any money that might have been left over. If it turned out that they had taken the people's money, we would ask the population what they wanted to do with these people—whether we should make them pay back the money, imprison them, or pray for them to turn over a new leaf and, instead of being our enemies, join us and struggle to change the community and the country.

[Reporter] And how did things go?

[Speaker] (?We never) acted violently. We were interested in judging them to recover community property.

[Reporter] Where did you go? Did you remaine in Cotes de Fer only or did you go elsewhere in the communal sections?

[Speaker] Right after we formed the committee—the people's court, I mean—in town, we went to many rural sections and did the same work there. We called those holding community property before the population and

made them give us an account of how they were managing the property. Then we formed another committee to come manage this property. I must tell you that the people who were managing this property were people who were in the community councils, and [words indistinct]. They were not imprisoned. We listened to the population and most of the time the population asked that we offer prayers so that they would turn over a new leaf. [end recording]

New Port-au-Prince Mayor on Problems, Priorities
FL0710212888 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] City hall workers in Port-au-Prince demonstrated yesterday morning, demanding to be paid their September salaries. They also protested the presence of the new mayor, Mrs Carmen Christophe, who they no longer want. They equally protested the new team Mrs Christophe brought into city hall, a team made up mostly of people who already hold jobs in other public administrations and who thus apparently should not be working at city hall.

For her part, Mrs Christophe denounced the attitude of Franck Romain's people, among them a certain (Carmelo), who seem to want to boycott her work. She says that she has at her disposal only 6 out of 56 city hall trucks. The future does not look rosy for Mrs Carmen Christophe. We will listen to Marie-Josee's report on this.

[Marie-Josee] [Passage omitted] Mrs Christophe told us that there there was no money in city hall's coffers with which to pay employees. She said she has been spending her own money since she entered city hall. She stated that the minor employees, the drivers, and the people who pick up the garbage have been on strike ever since she became mayor. She added that it was they who were dumping trash to dirty the streets of Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted] She also said that all city hall's vehicles had remained in the hands of Romain's big macoutes. What means are available to her to recover the other 50 vehicles? Carmen Christophe said she was going to get the drivers' names and give them to the police, and the police would help her.

She declared that she was not out to fire any employees, that she wasn't into vengeance. However, she added that she was getting no cooperation from city hall staff; that, on the contrary, they were sabotaging everything she did.

Carmen Christophe feels that, apart from the marketplaces in Cite Soleil and Brooklyn [two slums in Port-au-Prince], which she simply must build, the most important thing to her today is to clean up Port-au-Prince.

[Begin recording] [Christophe] [Passage omitted] Everyone is on strike. No one wants to do a lick of work. The drivers were Franck Romain's drivers. They did this same thing to Mrs Franck Paul. She had to most humbly bend to their will in order to get them to do the work, so the trash wouldn't end up back on the streets. I will not bow to anyone at all, because I cannot reach an understanding with demons, with devils!

[Reporter] There was a rumor this morning that you paid someone to go set fire to the trash so you could say that Romain's men were setting fires. What do you have to say about this?

[Christophe] I am a Christian.

[Reporter] They arrested the man, and he made statements at the Cafeteria [police post on the Grand Rue].

[Christophe] You see? They are people who are being sent! You see how treacherous this country is? A guy came and told me he would work with me, that he did not work at city hall, and so forth. I asked him, what would you yourself do? [passage omitted] I saw the trash piling up. [passage omitted] I told him: You know what? I will give you money to buy three gallons of gas-oil and you dump it there. [passage omitted] Burn that pile of trash for me, please, because there is just no way all that trash can be disposed of! [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Tension at city hall rose even higher at around noon, when the payroll accountant received a letter firing him. The office employees joined the workers in protesting, and despite the presence of well-armed soldiers inside city hall, they went upstairs to restore the accountant to his position.

The employees also denounced crooked wheeling and dealing by Carmen Christophe and the staff she brought with her. They said she did not cooperate with the old employees at all. They say they are standing their ground firmly: the accountant will not be replaced. [passage omitted]

Minister Said Charging for Romain Safe-Conduct
FL0710191988 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] According to Mr Jean Guzman of the PRA, Haitian Revolutionary Party [Pati Revolisyone Ayisyen], a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official has asked Mr Franck Romain for a large amount of money to obtain for Romain a safe-conduct allowing him to leave the Dominican Embassy in Port-au-Prince, where he has been staying since the night of the 17 September coup d'etat.

[Begin Guzman recording] What I have come to announce—and I got my information from a reliable source—is that the minister of foreign affairs is conniving, is in complicity with, Franck Romain, the (?murderous criminal) now at the Dominican Embassy.

The minister of foreign affairs, who is a former macoute, has asked $100,000 of Franck Romain to facilitate the safe-conduct. He wants $100,000 so he can wheel and deal and give the money to his wife, who is sick and undergoing treatment abroad in France. [passage omitted] For his part, Romain has offered him $25,000.

Meanwhile, the Dominican ambassador has contacted Balaguer in connection with this matter. Negotiations are still going on. [passage omitted] The foreign minister has so far refused to accept $25,000. [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

St Lucia

Police Commissioner Dismissed; Top Officers Fired

FL0710232388 Bridgetown CANA in English
2305 GMT 7 Oct 88

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Oct 7, CANA—St. Lucia's prime minister, John Compton, on Friday announced the dismissal of Police Commissioner Cuthbert Phillips. Prime Minister Compton also said that two other top cops—Andrew and Norbert Frederick had been sacked.

The dismissals came as government moved to implement the recommendations of a commission of inquiry into the operations of the police force.

In a statement prepared for broadcast to the nation at 2000 hours (local time), Compton announced the sacking of Deputy Commissioner Andrew Frederick and his brother, Superintendent Norbert Frederick.

The three officers are alleged to have been the source of infighting which has plagued the police department for some time.

Compton said that Commissioner Phillips will be replaced by Clive Sealy who holds the rank of deputy commissioner in the police force of Trinidad and Tobago and who has acted as commissioner.

He said the United Kingdom Government had made available the services of superintendent Barnard Humphreys of the British police.

Humphreys will advise government through the commissioner on all matters related to the organisation and training necessary to improve the effectiveness of the force, Compton said.

The overhaul of the present leadership of the force was recommended in a report of a two man commission headed by former Trinidad and Tobago Attorney General Karl Phillips, and former Police Commissioner Eustace Bernard

The inquiry was set up in response to widespread public discontent regarding a sharp increase in criminal activity and reports of infighting in the force.

The inability of the police to take effective action to stop a plague of attacks against persons and property has emboldened the criminal element to the extent that persons are attacked at high noon in the very centre of the city and even within the sacred confines of our churches, Compton said. Not even the police stations are safe as evidenced by a break-in at the port police station which is supposedly manned 24-hours-a-day and where dozens of police reside, he added.

The prime minister also referred to events of the past week which he said had caused alarm and fear among citizens.

"There has been gunfire in our streets leaving two men dead, road blocks have been set up in the streets of the city a few yards from the port police station, a customs warehouse supposedly guarded was broken into and two containers of drugs removed," he remarked.

"Everyone seems to know who the criminals are except the police, no arrests are made and all suspects permitted to leave the state."

He said that in spite of the public outcry the situation had not improved and, if anything, had got worse. For all these reasons, the public has completely lost confidence in the ability of the police to protect them and enforce the law, he said.

Compton said that unless there is immediate restoration of the discipline and effectiveness of the force and St. Lucia one again made a place where the safety of residents can be guaranteed protection, then government efforts at economic development will be destroyed.

He said that there were a number of excellent recommendations which deal with the reorganisation and structure of the force but the report concluded that these cannot be effectively carried out unless there is a complete overhaul of the present leadership of the force. He said that the force will be brought up to numerical strength but new recruits will be thoroughly examined not only with respect to academic qualification but even more important with regards to character.

Compton said that the current problems in the St. Lucia Police Force once again bring into focus the need for a unified officer corps among the various forces of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS]. This will broaden the horizons for promotion and experience and remove the frustration which inevitably comes from being stuck in one small rank and position. This is something the OECS must address and soon, he said.

Trinidad and Tobago

Government Meets With Public Sector Unions

FL0610204888 Bridgetown CANA in English
2316 GMT 5 Oct 88

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 5, CANA—A Trinidad and Tobago cabinet appointed team on Wednesday held its first meeting with protesting public sector unions but failed to allay fears of cuts in jobs in the 65,000 state sector. "What I have to tell my members is that the threat is still there... the government remains committed to an objective of a sizeable reduction in its recurrent expenditure," Public Services Association (PSA) president, Dr. Kenrick Rennie told CANA after the Wednesday afternoon session.

The PSA, representing civil servants and nurses, and the Postmans' Union met with a team headed by acting Finance Minister Selby Wilson. The Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teacher's Association (TTUTA) skipped the session saying they needed more time to analyse government's plans.

The meeting—the first official discussion since leaked cabinet plans sparked off a public sector protest last month—was used by government to clarify its plans for voluntary early retirement and voluntary severance. But the two unions leaving the first session said they were not happy with Wilson's indication that government was determined to cut its 1988 recurrent account and would have to look at "other ways" if public servants did not volunteer under the programmes. The administration says it plans to introduce the cost cutting programmes by November 1. The next meeting is October 13.

Rennie said his PSA would not be protesting this week but would be "tightening up" on its mobilisation network. The Joint Negotiating Team (JNT) of five public sector unions is expected to hold a special meeting early next week to look at government's plans as unveiled.

The Voluntary Termination of Employment Plan (VTEP) was made public at the weekend in a full page advertisement by government in the Sunday Guardian. A public servant would be allowed to retire at age 55—five years below the compulsory age and both early retirement and severance would attract a lump sum payment. Government insisted that the plan would not replace existing pension plans and terms of service in the state sector but would offer "an attractive compensation package" to those willing to leave the service.

The formal publication of the proposals follow leaking of a cabinet document which indicated that the administration wanted to save some TT 1.2 billion dollars (one TT dollar; 23.5 U.S. cents) through cost cutting and a forced savings plan for remaining public servants this year. The Wednesday meeting dealt with only the voluntary plans. Yet to be explained is government's plan for payment of gratuities partly in bonds, contracting out of services, and trimming of temporary appointments—all also outlined in the leaked cabinet document.

Wilson assured the unions that government would continue to look at rationalization of temporary jobs in the service and contracting out of services which it would then bring to the series of meetings. Rennie complained that some public servants with tempory appointments had already been served notice while this topic remained on the agenda for later discussion.

"We have to keep our members well mobilised... the fact that we are now talking with them does not mean... Mr. Wilson indicates to us that government is still committed to its objective of reducing allocations for personnel emoluments from 45 per cent of the recurrent expenditure to 25 per cent," Rennie said.

"You're talking about a target of some 1.1 billion dollars that they're looking at, given the unfinanced gap, but that kind of reduction in expenditure, it will affect... the size of the workforce," Rennie remarked. "I am almost sure that they will not be able to get all the people necessary to bridge that gap... by way of the voluntary severance and early retirement. So that the public service is basically still under threat and public servants and the general public should be very clear about that. Even worse, is if... the government has formally requested a standby facility with the International Monetary Fund. If that is the case, well our problems have just begun," Rennie added.

NAR Activist Resigns; Says Party 'Deteriorating'

FL0610222588 Bridgetown CANA in English
2107 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct. 6 CANA—An activist of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), credited with building support for the party in the key east-west corridor, has resigned.

Sonny Singh quit, complaining that the NAR was deteriorating, that it showed no concern to its workers, and that the leadership was insincere.

Singh, an accountant, sent a letter, and a petition with 300 signatures, to NAR General Secretary Dr. Bhoe Tewarie, at the end of September. In the letter Prime Minister, A.N.R. Robinson is praised as a respected statesman.

"...With the current NAR policy, people began to question us and they felt that we had betrayed them..." the letter said.

But Singh has discounted suggestions that the group may join either the opposition Peoples National Movement (PNM), or NAR dissidents led by former deputy leader, Basdeo Panday, insisting they will not seek immediate affiliation with other political groups.

"When the time comes, we probably will try to choose the best candidate to do the job," Singh said.

The 300 signatories included 10 members of the so-called "get things done" arm of the NAR, a group which was christened the A-Team and which is said to have helped the NAR win support in PNM strongholds by doing community projects.

Singh in his letter to Dr Tewarie said signatories of the petition were being accused of betraying the trust which the "grassroots" had put in them. He said that the group would now spend its time on community projects, including one to feed poor people.

NAR public relations officer, Lennox Raphael, reacting to the resignations, told CANA : "Hell has no fury like a politician scorned."

Costa Rica

Arias Departs for Visits to Caribbean, Europe

PA1010143388 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2024 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Excerpts] San Jose, 9 Oct (REUTER)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias left today for Miami, Florida, for the first leg of his trip to Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Spain, and Great Britain. [passage omitted]

Arias, who plans to be back in San Jose by 20 October, left on a private plane accompanied by 14 people, including his wife Margarita and his children, Silvia and Oscar Felipe.

El Salvador

U.S. Embassy Vehicle Attacked; No Casualties

PA0810212788 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2045 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Oct (REUTER)—A car belonging to the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador that was carrying two security agents was shot at, apparently by a guerrilla command, but there were no injuries, an embassy spokesman reported today.

The attack took place Friday outside the National University, which is considered a bastion for the leftist FMLN and is located a few blocks from the fortified U.S. Embassy.

"A man suddenly appeared and shot twice at the front of the car," U.S. Embassy spokesman John McManus explained. The occupants, both Salvadorans, managed to flee while the attacker shot at the back of the vehicle, McManus added.

According to telephone calls to local radio stations, FMLN units claimed responsibility for the attack.

The spokesman said the two security guards were picking up a fellow worker who was to begin his shift.

Normally, combined embassy and national police units patrol the Salvadoran capital, considered one of the most dangerous posts for U.S. diplomats.

The FMLN, which has been fighting for 9 years, considers the Reagan administration to be its enemy due to the support it gives to the Salvadoran Government and the military.

FMLN Takes Credit

PA0910013188 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0020 GMT 9 Oct 88

["War bulletin" issued by FMLN urban guerrilla units in San Salvador—date not given]

[Text] Revolutionary members of the FMLN's Pedro Pablo Castillo urban guerrilla unit carried out an operation called "Trial and Punishment for the Torturing Criminals." The operation consisted of an attack on a U.S. Embassy security vehicle. This successful attack took place at 0630 on Friday, near the San Salvador university. This operation is to repudiate the massacre of 10 peasants by the Armed Forces at San Francisco Canton, San Vicente.

The attack by our urban unit is a clear message to the filibustering U.S. ambassador who finally opened his mouth to say what we Salvadorans already know. Williams [as heard] said the embassy is not an investigative organization, referring to the [words indistinct] massacre. Does Mr Williams think we Salvadorans ever believed that the U.S. Embassy is an investigative organization? After 8 years of war, no one here doubts that the U.S. Embassy is the home of intervention, a branch of the Washington warmongerers, and the director of our country's government activities. Are we going to wait for the assassins to investigate their own crimes? Mr Williams clearly said that Washington recognizes the merits of the Salvadoran Government and puppet Army in the increased counterinsurgency program. There is no doubt that in the eyes of the regime [words indistinct] including the last publicly known massacre: the murder of 10 peasants in San Vicente, coldly plotted by the repressive forces financed by the United States.

Further Attacks Promised

PA1110031588 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0039 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] [U.S. Ambassador] William Walker looks at his broken arm and feels sorry for himself.

The San Sebastian massacre will create many problems for U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran Army. That massacre clearly demonstrates the United States must change its policy toward Central America. That massacre, [words indistinct] the U.S. ambassador will increase [words indistinct]. It will increase ambushes, occupations of Army quarters, demonstrations in San Salvador, sabotage in Santa Ana Department, and the occupation of neighborhoods in San Miguel Department.

William Walker, that massacre will multiply the attacks on the cars of your embassy, and the day will soon come when RPG-7 rockets start falling on your house.

William Walker takes strong tranquilizers to alleviate the pain of his broken arm, and uncertainty surrounds him both in English and Spanish. [sentence as heard]

The strategy defeated President Duarte. It is defeating the Armed Forces and will defeat Ambassador Walker as it did his filibuster predecessor, that William Walker of the past century.

FMLN Takes Credit for Attack on Assembly

PA0710200388 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1630 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The FMLN's Juan Castro urban commando group claimed responsibility today for the attack on the Legislative Assembly yesterday. We have statements from an unidentified man who claims to be a member of that organization.

[Begin speaker recording] To assassins and crooks: The people should be ready for the rebellion. Yesterday's action consisted of an attack with RPG-7 rockets on the misnamed Legislative Assembly, which is the center for death squad operations. It is a hideout for crooks, traitors, and thieves. The attack was a response by the people because of the Assembly's actions against workers. The attack was carried out because of the massacre in San Sebastian and the repressive measures implemented by the puppet Armed Forces and by Duarte's traitorous government. We can say that the attack was basically aimed at all the deputies who defend the interests of the Salvadoran oligarchy. [end recording]

Attorney General Rules Out Army Deaths Account

PA1110002788 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpt] On 8 October, Salvadoran Attorney General Roberto Giron Flores ruled out all possibilities that the 10 peasants killed in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, died during an FMLN ambush, as the Salvadoran Armed Forces have asserted.

Giron Flores based his statements on data provided by the coroners, who examined the bodies of 9 of the 10 murdered peasants.

[Begin recording] [Giron] The most overwhelming proof we have is the coroners' report after they examined the bodies. In fact, you already informed the public about those reports. The peasants were shot at extremely close range—less than 50 cm—[words indistinct] 15 cm is the minimum. In cases such as these, in which there are tattoos, we can even believe the victims were shot at a maximum distance of 75 cm.

[Reporter] Does that information rule out [words indistinct]?

[Giron] Yes, that rules out that possibility. This report is scientific, technical proof that makes the version of the ambush completely unbelievable. No can can be shot at a 15-75-cm range during an ambush. [end recording]

The statements made by the Salvadoran attorney general contradict the Armed Forces' version, which states the 10 peasants killed in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, died during an FMLN ambush on 21 September. [passage omitted]

Duarte To Travel to U.S. for Checkup

PA0810232888 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte by unidentified reporters after the inauguration of a telephone exchange in San Salvador on 8 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] How long will you be there [in the United States for medical treatment]?

[Duarte] There is supposed to be 3 days of [words indistinct] and 2 days of travel. It will be (?8) days, more or less.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Duarte] I do not have any idea. That is why I am going to the United States, to get a checkup.

[Reporter] How does the formation of the MADC [Authentic Christian Democratic Movement] by Rey Prendes affect PDC [Christian Democratic Party] possibilities in the 1989 elections?

[Duarte] I cannot tell you. That depends on the people. Obviously, I feel as if the government was hurt. I do not understand how certain people have acted the way they have. Regarding the PDC's internal problems, I think it is a shame. However, it is a fait accompli and we have to move on. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] How do you feel?

[Duarte] I feel very good. Thank God, I am fighting the country's problem and my illness. You have witnessed the work I am doing. I think it is necessary, as we approach the social conflict that will exist during the elections, for it to become increasingly clearer that the political freedom granted to all sectors is permitting democracy to advance. Let us hope that God will [words indistinct] democracy. This is what I am doing as far as the political point of view is concerned. I am also fighting for my life. I am fighting cancer. I am under permanent medical care, without neglecting my presidential duties.

[Reporter] While on your trip to the United States, will you meet with any U.S. Government officials?

[Duarte] No, I will not meet with anyone. I will go there strictly for health reasons. [passage omitted]

[San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish on 8 October on page 5 carries a 100-word report that states that President Duarte is leaving on 9 October for a medical checkup at the Walter Reed Medical Center.]

Blandon Downplays Recent FMLN Attacks
PA0910041088 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Oct 88 p 5

[Text] General Adolfo Blandon said yesterday that the latest subversive attacks on civilians and government property lack military importance and only seek international attention. The chairman of the Salvadoran Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff was questioned during ceremonies commemorating the 52d anniversary of the founding of the Customs Police. Blandon said everything that the terrorist groups have done during the last few days, such as the attacks at Zaragoza and the Legislative Assembly, and the destruction of ANTEL [National Telecommunications Administration] installations and municipal offices, are FMLN-FDR propaganda acts for overseas consumption, prior to the coming U.S. and Salvadoran elections.

Blandon said if all these terrorist acts are seriously analyzed it can be seen that they have no military value. The clandestine groups have not really occupied any important positions, much less defended any.

The attacks, Blandon added, do not require great wisdom or courage. To attack defenseless people when you outnumber them, often by as much as 12 or 15 to 1, is no indication of true strength. On the contrary, Blandon said, when the Army gets close the first thing the guerrillas do is flee. Many times the guerrillas hide behind innocent peasants to induce pity and prevent a counterattack.

Blandon stressed that, unfortunately for El Salvador, many of the foreign correspondents that are here report these attacks as great deeds when in reality they are nothing more than simple terrorist acts. He stressed that there have already been reporters who have arrived from Europe, the United States, and other countries believing that the subversives control great parts of the country. They are disappointed when they are able to see that it is all international propaganda and nothing more.

What is really worth noting, Blandon underscored, is the high level of awareness that citizens have developed. They are no longer surprised with these types of tricks, such as occurred at the end of the 1970's and the beginning of the 1980's. Now, he said, the people have realized that the subversive groups base everything on lies and deception. The people do not allow themselves to be used for the terrorists' games, like the foreign correspondents and some of the local media do.

He ended by making a patriotic appeal to all Salvadorans to sincerely evaluate the country's situation and give their true opinion of it.

Zamora on Elections, U.S., Merger Stands
PA0910220388 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Interview with Democratic Merger leader Dr Ruben Zamora by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] Doctor, you criticized the elections, terming them a U.S. counterinsurgency plan. How do you explain this participation?

[Zamora] Since 1982—in other words, during this decade—the elections have fallen within the framework of a counterinsurgency plan, which is subtly directed by part of the U.S. Government. It has not yet disappeared. It is believed that this has happened, not just generally, but specifically. The elections are viewed as the instrument that is used or that the counterinsurgency tries to use. In practice, the crisis level of the U.S. counterinsurgency plan here in El Salvador is such that not even its own instruments are working. One of these is the elections. The Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the party that expresses the U.S. counterinsurgency plan, lost the elections in March 1988, which shows the elections have greatly destabilized the U.S. counterinsurgency plan. Our participation in the elections, on the one hand, is aimed at overcoming this situation in which the United States eminently decides things in our countries. At the same time, we must overcome this and build a true democracy in El Salvador, where the elections will permit the people to demonstrate their will and not to paint a nice face on a regime that is not national but instead decided by Washington.

[Reporter] Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, former culture and communications minister, said through the communications media yesterday that the greatest voter in El Salvador was former U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr. Rey Prendes said Corr had imposed certain candidates, specifically Fidel Chavez Mena. Rey Prendes said Roberto D'Aubuisson and Hugo Carrillo had been ruled out by Corr. Do you think this is true?

[Zamora] Our country's reality is that government actions are not determined by the Salvadoran people and not by nationalistic forces, but by the U.S. Government. The U.S. influence on the PDC is evident. The United States did not want Rey Prendes to be the candidate; they wanted Chavez Mena to receive all the support. The U.S. Embassy's political attache was publicly seen at Chavez Mena's convention with a big smile on his face, by the way. It is also evident that in the past, the U.S. Government has staged campaigns against [words indistinct]. The United States has tried to present Cristiani as a different National Republican Alliance leader. The truth is that since the U.S. Government is so involved in

our country's internal affairs, it also ends up involved in the internal affairs of the Salvadoran political parties. It is wrong for the United States to meddle in the internal affairs of our political parties, just as it is wrong for it to try leading this country as if it were the real owner of El Salvador. At least Rey Prendes recognized the United States has nothing to do with the Democratic Merger, and that is true. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] The United States has definitely made no contacts with the Democratic Merger, Dr Zamora?

[Zamora] There have been contacts I believe we must be clear in this. Even though we dislike it, the United States is a real power in this country; even though we dislike it, the oligarchy is another big power in the country. Therefore, we must seek contacts with all the real forces in the country whether we like it or not. This is not a matter of sitting down with all those who agree with us. We must talk with everyone. [passage indistinct] We must not present ourselves as the enemies of the U.S. Government. We have to be realistic. We must be cordial, show mutual respect, and have dignity. These are the three basic norms of a relationship with the United States. We must try to make it a cordial, respectful, and dignified relation, and we must maintain national unity above all other aspects.

[Reporter] Dr Zamora, to achieve peace in El Salvador, what type of political negotiation is needed between the government and the guerrillas? What are the basic points that should be included in a dialogue with the government?

[Zamora] We proposed in the Democratic Merger's platform how to achieve a political solution in El Salvador. We divided the proposal into three phases.

The first phase is to truly honor the Esquipulas II agreements, including the departure of foreign military advisers; a weapons moratorium, which means no more arms should be brought into the country by either side; the creation of the post of human rights attorney general, so human rights are really respected in the country; and declaring El Salvador militarily neutral in the Central American conflict. These are some of the measures that should be taken to decrease the armed conflict.

This would lead us to the second phase, which is the following: A negotiated peace not only needs the participation of the government and the FMLN-FDR; it also needs the participation of all interested sectors. To achieve peace, it is necessary to reach three basic agreements: First, there should be a military agreement that can lead to the solution to conflicts in national territory. Who would sign this agreement? Obviously the government, the Armed Forces, and the FMLN would sign it, because they are the ones directly involved. Second, there should be a political agreement outlining the basic rules of the game that should be followed in our national politics. Who would participate in such an agreement? Obviously, the government, political parties, and the FMLN-FDR would participate. Third, we propose a socioeconomic agreement, which would outline the basic rules of the socioeconomic game, so the country can begin to recover. We believe the goverment, private enterprise, workers representatives, and the the FMLN-FDR should participate in such an agreement. If we reach these three agreements—the military, the political, and the socioeconomic—we would have the basis for peace.

We would then move on to a third phase, which we call consulting with the people. So far, representative forces have participated in reaching agreements. What do the people have to say? We must consult directly with them. I am sure if we Salvadorans are able to reach an agreement, the Salvadoran people will agree with it with all their hearts, because they want peace. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Dr Zamora, will the increase of violence by the rebels adversely affect the Democratic Merger?

[Zamora] I believe the war has increased in the country in the last few weeks. This is evident, and the news media have reported on it; it is a real phenomenon. The Democratic Merger will participate in the elections because it seeks to reach a political solution to bring us out of the war. The increase in the war could adversely affect the Democratic Merger because if it extends to a larger number of areas, it would be more difficult to move around the country and participate in an electoral campaign. This is obvious. I am more concerned about an increase in the repression in this country. We have seen how repression has increased daily during the last few months to the point that massacres of peasants have taken place, such as the one in San Sebastian, where 10 were murdered. This concerns us more because these types of massacres and the increase in repression frighten people and leads them away from participating in politics. The Democratic Merger really wants the people's participation. Fear is our enemy, and we must defeat it. However, there are sectors who want to create fear among the Salvadoran people. Those are the true enemies of democracy. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] In conclusion, Doctor, if you were to attain the highest level of power [words indistinct]. If the Democratic Merger attained power, would you depend on the United States and other powers, or would you continue the policy of Central America's being the U.S. backyard?

[Zamora] I believe that when the Democratic Merger attains power—and it will—we will attempt to find solutions. If we fail, so be it, but we will try to achieve a national solution. This does not mean to say that if we encounter problems with the United States we will turn to the USSR. That would not be correct or realistic. The USSR is not interested in financing Central American governments—first, because the region is far from the USSR; second, because with perestroyka the USSR is more interested in its internal affairs and changes, which may take years; and third, because the USSR does not

want to stir up trouble with the United States in an area such as Central America, where it knows it cannot defend its own interests. The same can be said of the United States when there were problems in Poland, for example; the United States issued statements, it screamed, but it never got involved—because the United States knows it cannot get involved in that area [words indistinct]. The two superpowers understand and respect each other because they both have nuclear weapons.

Therefore, it is not a matter of entertaining the silly, utopian notion that we can simply seek an alliance with the USSR because we have an argument with the United States. That would not work. It is a matter of confronting the United States. Look at what is happening in Nicaragua. There were great hopes and plans for changes in that country. During the first 2 years, Nicaragua's economic growth increased at a very fast pace; then came the conflict with the United States, the contras, and the economic crisis. [Words indistinct] money to defend the country from the contras and to get involved in the war. We should learn from this lesson and understand that in Central America, we should be hopeful and should struggle for our national independence, but national independence must be supported by the Latin American countries. Fortunately for us, this can still be achieved because of our awareness. However, we must also try to develop a cordial relationship with the United States based upon mutual respect.

[Reporter] To conclude, Doctor, what can a country with great plans, like Nicaragua, do after its in-depth changes toward socialism? The country cannot function without U.S. aid.

[Zamora] The problem there is not whether the United States has provided aid or not. The problem is the U.S. ability to destroy the Nicaraguans' capability of carrying out their own plans. The United States established the contras in Nicaragua; the United States created and financed the contras. I am reading a book, "The CIA's Secret War" by Bob Woodward, and it clearly relates how the CIA created the contras, how the economic boycott was established, and, of course, being a small country, Nicaragua has begun to feel the effects of this. It is not that our development depends on U.S. aid; we will never develop if we believe we can only do so with U.S. aid. We will develop when all Salvadorans—the businessmen, laborers, employees, professionals, etc.—start working. We are going to need [words indistinct] and we welcome this. Our only viable means of achieving development, however, basically depends on our capability to work and create economic unity throughout Central America.

Rey Prendes Accuses Corr of Election 'Meddling'

PA0810003788 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Report by Joel Burgos on statements by Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, leader of the Authentic Christian Democratic Movement (MADC)—date and place not given]

[Text] Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, leader of the MADC and former leader of the PDC [Christian Democratic Party], today publicly accused former U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr of promoting divisions within the PDC and of imposing candidates who are submissive to the U.S. Administration.

[Begin Rey Prendes recording] There has been foreign meddling, especially by the former U.S. ambassador, who decided to pick presidential candidates from each of the political parties. He chose Dr Fidel Chavez Mena from the PDC, and he used his influence to get rid of me as a candidate. He chose Alfredo Cristiani from the ARENA [National Republican Alliance] and eliminated Roberto D'Aubuisson. Even in a small party like the PCN [National Conciliation Party], he used his influence to eliminate Hugo Carrillo and to promote Rafael Moran Castaneda as presidential candidate.

That is, there is a large voter constituency that wants the Salvadoran people to choose between the three people it has decided should compete. I hope the new ambassador and the State Department implement a different policy than the one used by former Ambassador Corr. [end recording]

During Corr's term as ambassador, the U.S. Embassy was accused of intervening in the nation's and political parties' internal affairs. Rey Prendes, who was expelled yesterday by the Christian Democratic Party, said that if President Jose Napoleon Duarte's government intends to dismiss his supporters from the presidential cabinet, he will have serious problems.

[Begin Rey Prendes recording] I believe they will have serious problems not only with the cabinet but with all directors of autonomous institutions, because a large majority of them have been close to us. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta said yesterday that the government is considering the possibility of making cabinet changes in the wake of the withdrawal of a group of officials who are Rey Prendes followers.

Merino ARENA Vice Presidential Candidate

PA0710160488 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 7

[Text] Francisco Merino has been selected vice presidential candidate for the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, party sources have reported.

The election took place during a regular ARENA Executive Council meeting yesterday attended by deputies and representatives from all departments and regions.

Merino, who will run on the ARENA ticket with presidential candidate Alfredo Cristiani, currently represents ARENA at the Central Electoral Council. The Cristiani-Merino ticket enjoys the full support of all party members, the sources reported.

It has also been reported that San Salvador Mayor Armando Calderon Sol, whose name had been mentioned as the probable vice presidential candidate, declined the nomination because he feels duty-bound to the city's people. He said he intends to complete his term.

The Cristiani-Merino ticket will be officially announced at a San Salvador hotel on Sunday, 9 October, before more than 300 delegates from all over the country, the sources concluded.

Guatemala

Riot Police Evict 2,000 Striking Port Workers

PA1010213788 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1607 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Labor sources reported today that Guatemalan riot police occupied Santo Tomas de Castilla port, the largest port on the Atlantic Coast. The police evicted over 2,000 striking workers.

The port company's workers union said the riot police "violently" entered the facilities. The port is located in Izabal Department, 300 km northeast of Guatemala City.

The sources added that no one was arrested or injured during the occupation of the port facilities.

They added that Minister of Special Affairs Sara Mishaan had ordered the riot police to evict the workers and occupy the facilities. The police had come from Guatemala City to the Atlantic port.

The labor union said the police action happened while the strike committee was negotiating with a government mission headed by Mishaan. The union regards the minister's action as a violation of the collective-bargaining agreement and so end the strike that had begun on Friday. [sentence as received]

The union added that the Navy intervened. It accused the Navy of "arbitrarily violating all international treaties by casting off all the (merchant) vessels that had docked at that port."

The 2,400 port workers went on strike and took over the facilities to protest Vinicio Cerezo's Christian Democratic Government. They also took this job action to "negotiate a collective agreement similar to that of a parallel union with ties to the ruling party," the union noted.

According to the union, after the "violent" eviction the workers gathered in the city's park.

Moreover, the General Confederation of Guatemalan Workers (CGTG) expressed in a communique its "total" support for the workers at the state-owned Santo Tomas de Castilla Port Company. It rejected the government's "acts of repression."

Rolando Rodriguez Falla, a member of the CGTG's consultative board, told ACAN-EFE that if the government does not remove its riot police and refuses to negotiate, the CGTG will call a nationwide strike.

Labor and Social Welfare Minister Rodolfo Maldonado, who together with Deputy Government Minister Julio Cesar Rivera and Special Affairs Minister Mishaan compose the negotiating delegation, said "a solution to the problem is being sought."

New Guerrilla Group Disagrees With URNG Stand

PA0710161488 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] A new guerrilla group has emerged, and it does not believe in dialogue. A division within the guerrilla ranks may be taking place.

Until now, the URNG has been representing the guerrillas. There had been reports, however, about a new group calling itself the Popular Revolutionary Commandos [Comandos Populares Revolucionarios]. The new group announced its existence in a communique issued today. In the communique, the group notes its disagreement with the URNG's policy of seeking a dialogue with the government and other groups. We do not want to be accomplices to imperialist maneuvers, the dissident guerrillas said. After studying the situation, the new rebel group based its decision to break with the URNG on its reluctance to continue to wait passively and thus become an accomplice to the maneuvers by the imperialists and the Guatemalan bourgeoisie, the communique noted.

The group added: We are creating a new organization to represent the true, authentic interests of Guatemala's proletariat within the revolutionary movement. We do not want to continue to wait passively as the URNG leaders are doing, the group stated.

Honduras

Foreign Minister Says No Force To Oust Contras

PA0810193088 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1630 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras today said his government will not use force to dislodge the contras from the areas they are occupying on the border with Nicaragua.

"Many countries in Central America and the world want Honduras to be the key to the solution of the Central American conflict and to solve the conflict by itself, even by using force to disband the armed groups that seek refuge in our territory," Lopez Contreras told several local journalists.

However, the Honduran foreign minister warned that "this is a very convenient position that overlooks the fact that each Central American country has its share of responsibility in the regional conflict. It is a position that my government is not willing to accept."

"If we were to use force to dislodge the contras or any other armed Central American group that took refuge in our country, we would be accused of being responsible for massacres, human rights violations, and all kinds of atrocities," Lopez Contreras said.

He also argued that neither the Honduran Government nor Army "want to be the policemen of other Central American governments and armies at the cost of great human and financial sacrifice."

The Honduran minister said he had no official knowledge of "any formal U.S. proposal to evacuate the contras to the United States at any moment."

U.S. newspapers reported this week that U.S. officials acknowledged their responsibility regarding the contras and were studying the possibility of evacuating them from Honduras and giving them asylum in the United States.

Lopez Contreras Cites U.S. Reaction to Proposal

PA0710191488 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 7 Oct 88

["Exclusive" interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by Jacobo Goldstein in Washington, DC, on 6 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Goldstein] How has the U.S. Government reacted to your proposal at the United Nations? We know you met with top U.S. officials yesterday in New York.

[Lopez] I had a very long meeting with U.S. Ambassador Morris Busby yesterday. Earlier, I met with Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, and Secretary of State George Shultz at the United Nations. They had a mixed reaction, one might say. They need a little time to assess its scope and meaning. The United States is in a transition period, as elections are approaching. I felt they viewed the Honduran proposal with great interest and as a proposal that may bring a final solution to the Central American problem. I repeat, this is not an easy problem.

The proposal reiterates Honduras' consistent position over several years of negotiations. Although some groups in Honduras have criticized the government's position, the Honduran Government has served the interests of Honduras first of all. Handling, promoting, and defending our interests is a very delicate political game. Involved in the game are the superpowers' interests. One of those superpowers, which is outside the continent, wants to assert its interests and promote them here. The other superpower, which is friends with Honduras, wants to resist that penetration on the American Continent. Just having that confrontation creates a very difficult problem.

We have done and are doing our share. We are interested in continuing to do so. The Honduran initiative asks the UN secretary general to convene meetings on Central America in order to end the existing stalemate. It is a dream to think the five Central American governments alone will solve the region's problems without taking into account the great influence of the superpowers.

[Goldstein] We have heard that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto had also told UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar he would like to meet with you and Perez de Cuellar. Have you heard reports on this?

[Lopez] Not directly. I have received indirect reports on this. Nicaragua's initial reaction was confusing. Apparently, the Nicaraguan delegation made use of its right to reply, but the reply was not very clear. It accused Honduras of creating confusion at the UN General Assembly. The next day, the Nicaraguan delegation officially circulated a communique urging the UN secretary general to invite Foreign Minister D'Escoto and me to a meeting. I learned of this after the document was circulated. The document was issued in the morning, yet the Nicaraguans tried to contact me in the afternoon. I had already scheduled my visit to Washington. I had to keep my commitments.

We circulated a document at the United Nations today reiterating the Honduran position. Our position is to seek a solution to the armed conflicts in Central America. This includes the problem of the Salvadoran rebels, who are supported and financed by the Soviet Union. Within the context of the proposed meeting with D'Escoto and Perez de Cuellar, we suggested to the UN secretary general that, at the very least, the Salvadoran, Nicaraguan, and Honduran foreign ministers must be present at a meeting to discuss Central America.

[Goldstein] I would like to know the reaction of the three countries you mentioned in the Honduran proposal. I mean the FRG, Spain, and Canada, the countries that would be in charge of watching the border.

[Lopez] I think it was positive. Honduras did not make the proposal in an arbitrary or fanciful manner. Instead, the proposal is the result of the consensus reached in the meetings of the Esquipulas Executive Commission. This

means the five Central American presidents agreed that if an inspection or security commission were established, the five Central American countries accepted these three countries in that commission. [passage omitted]

[Goldstein] How are relations between Honduras and the United States now?

[Lopez] As befits two countries that defend and promote democracy, relations are very cordial. We have security interests to protect. We very much want to continue promoting regional security, democracy, and economic recovery. [passage omitted]

Further on Proposal

PA0810202988 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by unidentified reporter in Tegucigalpa upon returning from UN General Assembly session in New York; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Can you tell us the nature of the Honduran proposal at the United Nations for an international peacekeeping force to be stationed at the borders with Nicaragua and El Salvador? What is the general feeling at the United Nations?

[Lopez] The idea is to revitalize the Esquipulas II agreement through a Honduran proposal and a consensus to be reached through superpower negotiations sponsored by the UN secretary general. These world powers would reach an understanding on the Central American situation and on their overall strategies in this regard, because the Central American situation cannot be resolved during the current conflict.

In addition, and based on such an understanding, the lack of agreement between Central American governments would be corrected and the Central American domestic conflicts could be settled. The instrument to be used for this purpose and to encourage the area governments to comply would be an international peacekeeping force, which would act not only as observer but as enforcer if necessary.

[Reporter] Why would this force also act as an enforcer?

[Lopez] Because of the structure of Esquipulas II. Honduras lies between countries with armed conflicts. The opposition forces in these countries try to use Honduran territory as their sanctuary. It is very easy for both neutral countries and those with domestic armed conflicts to tell Honduras: Do not permit the use of your territory. But this means we would have to take coercive measures against these groups and even use the Armed Forces if the armed groups offered resistance.

[Reporter] We read an international news dispatch when you were still in New York saying (?you would meet with) Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. [passage indistinct] Why did you not meet with him?

[Lopez] My proposal was to seek a tripartite understanding between El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras. I made this proposal at the OAS last year as well. But Nicaragua likes to be subjective. That is to say, Nicaragua wants to solve its own security problem while altogether ignoring El Salvador's security problem. As the country between nations with domestic conflicts, Honduras wants to solve the problems at both borders. Consequently, we have proposed a solution. I understand that El Salvador has expressed receptivity to this proposal. El Salvador would be willing to participate in talks sponsored by the UN secretary general with Canada, Spain, and the FRG.

[Reporter] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz immediately said—he did not directly say so, but he hinted—that he does not fully agree with this international peace force; he said those whom the government of President Reagan calls freedom fighters must be supported.

[Lopez] That is pretty much in line with U.S. policy. They have been publicly and openly supporting the revolutionary opposition in Nicaragua, even through the approval of funds in Congress. This is state policy.

Honduras, as I stated at the United Nations, has never recognized the Nicaraguan insurgent forces as a group having a territorial status; that is, almost having a legal international status. Nicaragua has. It has held talks with them and has established areas for the opposition forces. We have not done that; in this regard, we have been consistent.

[Reporter] Apparently, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the United States would be able to (?welcome) all the contras should they be forced to leave Nicaragua. However, it seems this has not and will not happen. Honduras' call for an international force creates a gap between the otherwise agreeable foreign policies of Honduras and the United States, because it advocates the withdrawal of the Sandinist government, but [words indistinct] through the contras. Does this create a difference?

[Lopez] I do not believe this involves a difference, because the official policies of the U.S. and Honduran Governments seek a clear objective: democratization. Honduras, as a neighboring country, is concerned about the Nicaragua crisis because it brings refugees, armed opposition, border [words indistinct] in its territory, and Nicaraguan military incursions into Honduras.

From the standpoint of the overall U.S. strategy, the Sandinist government's insistence on maintaining close ties with the Soviet bloc—which has strengthened Nicaragua's military apparatus and politically helped it organize an authoritarian structure—constitutes, to a certain

extent, a displacement of the U.S. presence and influence in Central America, specifically in Nicaragua. Therefore, there is a very clear clash of interests here. I am referring to this: The UN secretary general should intervene at an appropriate level [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Lopez] He [not further identified] was very cordial; I met him on two occasions in strictly bilateral meetings 2 days after arriving in New York. Afterwards, we met during a luncheon for Latin American foreign ministers. We shared a table and cordially exchanged views in the same (?room) where Honduras presented its position.

I must underscore that Honduras has its own position; it is not the United States'position. Starting points might differ but the finish line is the (?same). Honduras is not concerned about Soviet political or military influence or arrogance. In a democratic country as ours, we are interested in democratization in Nicaragua. However, we are also interested in protecting our security, our borders, as well as our people. We do not wish to be caught in an international conflict.

Talks on Bilateral Agreement With U.S. Viewed

PA0810190188 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 6

[Editorial: "Protocol No Three From Here to Eternity"]

[Text] What animal looks like a duck, swims like a duck, eats like a duck, and messes up the floor like a duck? Surely it is a duck because it could never be the proposed third protocol to the 1954 Bilateral Military Agreement between the Governments of the United States and Honduras.

Some might consider this obvious and it may well be. We should not, however, be blamed for being cynical in this regard since the Honduran Government itself and its plenipotentiary negotiator, the national defense and public security minister, were the first to arouse laughter on this subject.

We are not yet sure whether Colonel Wilfredo Sanchez, in his role as negotiator for the Armed Forces—that is, for Honduras—is joking or whether he is serious. We do not know him as a comedian but as one more inclined to speak in biblical tones. Sometimes, however—like at the "Parrilla" [Tegucigalpa restaurant]—human foresight is unreliable and, more often than not, the unexpected happens and one does not get what one orders.

This is the case with the well-known third protocol proposal to the 1954 military agreement, which is a legal instrument similar in every respect to a duck. It is not a duck, however, but a mechanism by which U.S. troops, who are constantly conducting joint exercises in our country, will "leave not just the garbage."

It is a good thing that we Hondurans are sharp and immediately understood the plenipotentiary negotiator's joke, although it did not seem to be a joke. As a negotiator, he cannot show his cards—the aces, we should say—or give away the position—as the military would say—and he wants us to believe that he is adrift.

Within this realm of disinformation, "the construction of new military installations," "the construction of permanent structures, including structural improvements," "the handling and storage of U.S. arms systems in Honduras," "the arrival (in Honduras) of U.S. vessels and ships that provide customary support to the U.S. forces"—or "that do not participate in exercises or provide customary support"—are connected to the regulation and operation of temporary military maneuvers in our country.

What the proposed third protocol stipulates regarding the use of land and permanent military installations is very vague. Nevertheless, "the U.S. Government will have the right to utilize every permanent structure that it has constructed or improved" and "according to the security procedures agreed upon, (the Honduran Government) will allow U.S. Government personnel and contractors immediate access to these installations."

Naturally, that is the way it is written, but that is not what it means. The word "permanent"—this is the interpretation of the Armed Forces' negotiator—means that the facilities so constructed must be durable, built to last forever if possible. It is a question of the quality of the work and not its purpose. These are facilities that will last, like the roads, water works, bridges, and amphitheaters built by the Roman legions. The only difference is that here they will be "Honduran," regardless of how, when, or by whom they are used, according to their "right," their will, their power, and their interests.

It is not pertinent, therefore, to refer to foreign bases or foreign military enclaves in Honduras. It is a question of a "special relationship" that looks like a duck, but perhaps, as in the story of the ugly duckling, it is a majestic swan like the one that inspired the poet Camille Saint-Saens. "That is what we want to regulate, that whatever is built in Honduras belongs to Honduras."

What will the benefits be? What will the damage be? This is what matters. What is essential, what is marvelous, is that they are laying the bases to construct something permanent in Honduras, more far-reaching than the ancient Copan [Mayan ruins in Honduras] with all of its trails, the hieroglyphic staircase, and calendar—a glorious entry into the 21st century.

Nicaragua

Ortega on U.S. 'Destabilization,' Reagan Speech

PA0910174488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2327 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Ernesto "Che" Guevara at La Pinata Fair Center in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Chilean people recently expressed in a plebiscite their opposition to imperialism. The no-vote for Pinochet was not simply a no-vote for Pinochet. It was a no-vote for imperialism. At first, physical resources and millions of dollars were invested and disinformation campaigns were carried out to isolate the Popular Unity government headed by Salvador Allende, the heroic president. [applause] [passage omitted]

This Latin American reality, which was most strongly expressed in Chile through the popular forces' attempt to reach power through peaceful means, was again thwarted, defeated by U.S. imperialism. Encouraged by its experience in Chile, it has tried to repeat history here in Nicaragua and has used and continues using rightist newspapers.

LA PRENSA is a CIA tool. It is a tool in the destabilization plan here in Nicaragua. It has been given the role that was assigned to the rightist press in Chile, the role that was assigned to EL MERCURIO in Chile. This is LA PRENSA's role. It receives instructions from the Yankee embassy. It receives money from the Yankee embassy. LA PRENSA is a CIA newspaper. It is not a newspaper of the Nicaraguan opposition. It is a newspaper of the Yankee empire that is trying to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. LA PRENSA itself has admitted that it receives funds from the agencies the CIA supplies with destabilization tools.

Through (?some of) its members, the church hierarchy has also been used and continues being used as a tool to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. [passage omitted]

In a most unchristian fashion, the hierarchy of the Nicaraguan Catholic Church has repressed priests and nuns who support the process of change in our country. The church hierarchy has expelled them from our country or punished them. It has filled their vacant posts with others whose political stances are very unchristian. Moreover, the church's attitude is counterrevolutionary and diabolic since it brings the message of death and the message of the imperialists. The church hierarchy is trying to sanction with their words the Yankee government's terrorist actions and mercenary bands.

The Yankees are trying to repeat history here. They are also using some political parties, groups, and unions that claim to oppose the government in a legal manner. In fact, their actions go much further than the opposition should within the pluralistic framework that the Sandinist revolution defends. These are political parties and groups. These are unions clearly at the service of the destabilization plan of the Yankee empire. In Chile, the imperialists used some farmers' groups. When it comes to producing and making profits, those groups accept the revolutionary plan. Yet when it comes to speaking out, those groups speak and act totally against the revolutionary plan and against our country's institutional framework. Their arguments are in line with the Yankee destabilization plan.

The imperialists are using numerous means to try to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution, but the imperialists do not have supporters. Their supporters are in the minority. Imperialists do not have power here or a Pinochet to stage a coup, so they had to resort to [Enrique] Bermudez. That is why I said that Bermudez is Reagan's Pinochet. He is the imperialists' Pinochet. The contras, the contra Directorate, the mercenaries, the counterrevolutionaries are the armed tools of the imperialists. The imperialists had to organize them from abroad. The contras were organized in Washington so they could come via Miami, via El Salvador, and via Honduras to perpetrate abuses, crimes, and terrorism against the Nicaraguan people. The imperialists took this course since they lacked an armed instrument with which to attack Nicaragua.

I was scheduled to speak at the United Nations, and this was precisely what I was going to talk about. I was going to remind Ronald Reagan that the peoples continue to struggle. I was going to remind him that he could not stop the struggle of the South African people despite his complicity with the South African racist government. Reagan was not able to stop the struggle of the Palestinian and Nicaraguan peoples, nor was he able to stop the struggle of the revolutionaries in Latin America who continue to fight and resist. [applause] This is the other side of the story of the peoples of the world that Reagan purposely left out of his speech at the United Nation.

I must admit that during his speech Reagan presented a very positive picture regarding some aspects of the world situation. He talked about the positive results of the agreements between the USSR and the United States. We do not deny that these agreements can become historic agreements as they continue to develop and strengthen. The groundwork was established. However, Reagan is now trying to present himself as the person who, thanks to his decisions and initiatives, made these agreements possible. We all know very well that these agreements were possible solely because of the flexible attitude and repeated initiatives of the USSR. The USSR cornered Reagan's policy to such an extent that not even his own European allies were supporting it. Reagan had no other choice but to accept the reasonable proposal presented by the USSR. The flexibility of the USSR deserves special mention. The USSR was patient in the face of Reagan's arrogant, hegemonist, and aggressive

policy. Reagan fought the USSR proposal, but reason won over Reagan's pride and arrogance. We cannot deny the historic nature of these agreements.

However, we will not accept Reagan's claim that the USSR's decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan is the result of his policy. The troop withdrawal from Afghanistan is the result of a USSR policy. Reagan cannot tell us that the talks on South Africa, Namibia, Angola, and the Cuban people's solidarity for the brother countries in Africa is a triumph for Reagan's policy. It is a triumph for the policies of the Frontline peoples. The Frontline people have been strong and have resisted the imperialist aggression of a country that has used the South African regime as its spearhead. Had South Africa made progress with its warmongering policy, gaining ground and overthrowing governments, the situation today would be quite different. But since the imperialist policy has reached a standstill, since the imperialist policy has failed throughout the South African area, then it can do nothing more than accept the path of negotiation. Ronald Reagan cannot call this a triumph for his policy. This is proof that Ronald Reagan's hegemonist and warmongering policy has failed.

During his speech at the United Nations, Reagan tried to present the cease-fire agreement between Iran and Iraq as his victory, as a victory for his government, his administration. Everyone knows that all Reagan did was stir the ashes and take advantage of the conflict in order to have a military presence in the gulf. Among other things, this military presence resulted in the downing of an Iranian civilian aircraft.

The Nonaligned Movement struggled to achieve the Iran-Iraq cease-fire because it was convinced that the war between these nations only served to strengthen imperialism and weakened the Nonaligned Movement. It weakened the progressive and anti-imperialist front and the Nonaligned Movement.

The Governments of Iran and Iraq, acting in a responsible manner, are the ones who finally decided to end the war. It is not Ronald Reagan's work or victory. Quite the contrary, because if Reagan had wanted to resolve this conflict he would not have sent his warships into the area.

Reagan tried to portray an idyllic panorama of the world at the United Nations. He ignored or tried to ignore the economic, social, and political oppression that developing nations continue to suffer. Reagan forgot infant mortality. Reagan forgot the poverty, unemployment, and hunger that afflict Latin America, Asia, and Africa. These conditions are a result of economic policies that have been imposed by the U.S. empire and by capitalist countries with market economies. Reagan forgot to mention how the developing countries' economies are being exploited and subordinated. Reagan forgot to make proposals to solve these problems by implementing a new international economic order.

He forgot to mention the tragedy experienced by people in the United States where, in the midst of great wealth, there is hunger and unemployment. There are people in the United States who do not have anywhere to live. They have to live in the streets or under bridges, and these people die when cold weather sets in.

Reagan forgot to talk about his lack of respect for the International Court of Justice [ICJ]. Reagan forgot this issue when he supposedly supported the United Nations. In a calculated and demagogic manner, he supported the United Nations but forgot the ruling issued by the ICJ—a UN organization—calling on the United States to suspend its criminal operations against Nicaragua immediately.

But Reagan did remember to launch a ferocious attack against Nicaragua. This attack broke the speech's general tone that tried to present an idyllic world attained through his efforts. Reagan went to the United Nations and, once again, lied. He lied in an elegant manner. He does this well. Amidst his lies, he did not forget to strike a blow at the Nicaraguan revolution. He tried to portray the world as a tranquil sea—tranquillity achieved through his diligence—but when he spoke of Nicaragua the sea got choppy. Reagan reaffirmed at the United Nations his policy of disrespect for international legal order. He reaffirmed his disrespect for the United Nations and his contempt for the ICJ ruling.

This is the story that Reagan did not tell. We had planned to tell this part of the story at the United Nations but were unable to do so because Nicaragua, which has defended international law, could not accept that the Yankee government could decide when the Nicaraguan delegation was to travel and how many people would be in the delegation.

Had we agreed to travel when the Yankee government, through its embassy, delivered a certain number of visas, we would have been subjugating Nicaragua and the United Nations to the decisions of the host country, the U.S. Government, the United States.

Had we waited for them to deliver all the visas—they said they would deliver them on 5 October—we would then have had to travel when they said we could. In any case, we would have been submitting to the dictates of the Yankee empire, and we Sandinists carried out a revolution in Nicaragua precisely so that we would never again have to submit to the Yankee empire's dictates. [applause]

The speech that I would have made at the United Nations is being made here today to representatives of the brother peoples of Latin America, the Caribbean, and other parts of the world, who are here in this audience.

We would have had to condemn there, once again, the behavior of the U.S. Government, which finally approved a package of humanitarian and military aid, as they call it—humanitarian aid means logistical aid for the contras and military aid, well, that is very clearly defined. They approved a package to continue their policy of destabilization against Nicaragua. This, on the part of the U.S. Congress, on the part of Democrats and Republicans, is more proof of the disrespect that they have for people, international law, and the United Nations. It also highlights once again the pragmatism of U.S. electoral policy, in which principles become secondary and opportunism prevails. The position of those in the U.S. Congress who professed to be opposed to aid for the contras has been inconsistent. They yielded to Reagan's pressure in a complex electoral framework. They have placed electoral interests above principles. The fact is that U.S. society is based on those values. It is moved by artificial fireworks. That is why opinions change drastically from one moment to the next when one least expects it. In other words, there is no solid thinking based on conviction except that of those who, in defense of the interests of the U.S. empire, in defense of the transnationals and in defense of the military industry, have designed a complete policy, a complete system for subjugating U.S. society.

If there is a totalitarian regime disguised by the term democratic, that totalitarian regime is in the United States of America. U.S. democracy is mere fiction. Where is party pluralism in the United States? It does not exist. Where is the mass participation of the people in U.S. elections? Such mass participation does not exist. On the contrary, the trend has been toward rising voter apathy among the U.S. electorate. The U.S. rulers increasingly represent the vote of a minority of the U.S. people. That is U.S. reality, and in the face of it, Nicaragua has maintained a dignified, consistent, and firm position.

We have always been prepared to seek an understanding with the United States and to honorably seek to normalize relations with the United States. We are not asking them to come with their millions. We are simply asking them to respect international law and stop attacking Nicaragua. We are asking them to allow us to build our revolution in peace. That is all we demand from Mr Reagan. We have no hopes of millions in U.S. aid. We are not asking them for it. That explains why, when we made the humanitarian appeal on behalf of our children—and although we are aware of the needs of the Nicaraguan people—we felt it would have been unworthy of us to receive that aid. We felt it would have been unworthy of us to receive money from the murderer who is killing or maiming children or leaving them orphans. They have not stopped their criminal policy but are instead reaffirming it with the recent decision by the U.S. Congress to approve new funds to continue the war against Nicaragua.

Just as we have rejected those funds for Nicaragua's children, we will likewise not allow the arrival of funds approved by the Yankee Congress to continue the destabilization campaign against Nicaragua. This campaign uses some members of the church hierarchy, LA PRENSA, some political groups and unions, trade associations, and some radio stations. We will not tolerate this. So, we sent a bill to the National Assembly. The National Assembly already approved the bill whereby any Nicaraguan who receives this sort of donation—from the country that is attacking Nicaragua—any Nicaraguan who receives this kind of financial aid, through any formula, means, or pretext, will have no justification now. He would be acting like a traitor to the fatherland. He would be receiving funds from the government that officially implemented through its Congress the policy of terrorism and war against the people of Nicaragua. In that respect, Nicaraguan law... [applause] In that respect, Nicaraguan law has clearly established penalties for those who do this.

We are meeting here this afternoon to pay tribute to Che. He symbolizes internationalism and revolutionary consistency. As I did last year when I spoke at the United Nations on 8 October and dedicated my message to Che, once again today, together with the people of Nicaragua, the peoples of Latin American and Caribbean, the peoples of the developing countries, and even the peoples of the developed countries who have appreciated Che's work, we dedicate our effort, our decision to fight, and our conviction in the defense of the Nicaraguan revolution to Ernesto Che Guevara. [applause] [passage omitted]

Obando y Bravo Defends U.S. Aid to Nicaragua

PA1010135588 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1226 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo defended yesterday the sending of funds authorized by the U.S. Congress to the counterrevolutionaries, political parties, LA PRENSA, and the Catholic Church. He said that not to receive the aid would mean going against the people. The illustrious Catholic prelate noted the following in his homily at the Santo Domingo de las Sierritas Church: If the U.S. funds were sent to purchase medicine and food for the people, they should be accepted. He also reiterated that he has not been offered funds from the Yankee Congress.

Referring to comments by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra that some members of the Catholic Church hierarchy were not fulfilling the Gospel but supporting war, the cardinal stated that the bishops try to preach God's word. The word of God is a two-edged sword that plunges into the marrow of bones and never comes out without doing its job, he added. In addition, Cardinal Obando y Bravo noted that the Gospel destabilizes that which is sinful and oppressive; therefore, the bishops will always preach the Gospel to end iniquity.

Accused of Using U.S. Funds

PA1010203288 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1938 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The explanation for Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo's defense of the use of U.S. Congress-approved

funds in Nicaragua can be found in the backyard of Casa Pellas [a car dealership] in Managua. There are nine of the latest model Japanese vehicles parked there, purchased by the Managua archbishopric curia. Seven more vehicles are expected, all of which have already been paid for by Nicaraguan Catholic authorities.

At another car agency, Casa Mantica, there is another vehicle, a new Isuzu Trooper, purchased at a cost of $37,000 for exclusive use by Cardinal Obando. The vehicle, like the 16 Toyota Land Cruisers paid for in advance at Casa Pellas, has all the extras. All of the vehicles, the purpose for which has not been disclosed, are valued at more than $500,000. It has also been reported that the archbishopric curia ordered 16 generators and paid for them, just like the 17 vehicles, with a portion of the $2 million fund placed at the Catholic hierarchy's disposal by the U.S. Government agency known as AID, the Agency for International Development.

Cardinal Responds

PA1110005588 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2059 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Managua, 10 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo today denied the accusation made by The Voice of Nicaragua, the official Sandinist radio station, which charged that the church had acquired 17 Japanese-made vehicles for its own use. Obando y Bravo said the vehicles were to be used in the verification of the Sapoa agreements.

However, Obando y Bravo did not categorically deny the vehicles were purchased with a check issued by the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), which is against a law recently approved by the Nicaraguan Assembly that bans the entry of funds from the U.S. Congress.

The Voice of Nicaragua said the Nicaraguan curia had acquired the 17 vehicles with a check issued by AID.

"I do not know much about that purchase, one would have to ask Father Guijo, the treasurer of the commission for the verification of the Sapoa agreements," Obando y Bravo stressed.

The cardinal noted that "these vehicles have not been delivered yet."

According to the law, introducing U.S. Congress economic funds can be punished by 4-12-year prison terms.

The cardinal said the church had requested a tax exemption for these vehicles but a reply has not yet been received.

Obando y Bravo said he feels the law prohibiting the introduction of U.S. Congress economic funds is a decision of the government, "which has the power and is exercising that power."

"If these funds are to be spent for housing, medicine, or the children, the poor are definitely not benefitting from them," the Catholic leader emphasized.

The commission for the verification of the Sapoa agreements, signed between the Nicaraguan Government and the armed resistance on 23 March, is composed of Cardinal Obando y Bravo and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares.

While The Voice of Nicaragua reported the 17 Toyota Land Cruiser jeeps, worth $16,000 each, were to be used by the curia, Obando y Bravo said they were to be used in the verification of areas in the Nicaraguan interior.

Obando y Bravo stressed: "An effort is being made to create confusion with this type of information, because the church and the Verification Commission are two different things."

LA PRENSA on 'Unjust' Interior Ministry Order

PA0710234788 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 2

[Editorial: "An Unjust Order, Without Right or Reason"]

[Text] LA PRENSA has courteously complied with the authorities request by publishing on its front page today two hasty documents by the Interior Ministry in which, unfortunately, the legal regulations dealing with the exercise of freedom of expression in Nicaragua are incorrectly quoted.

Under Somozism there existed the so-called "Law of Rectifications," by which a newspaper was obliged to publish any rectification or clarification on the same page with the same type of print and the same coverage given to the original report. Naturally, Somozism sought with this law to turn the independent dailies into publications full of rectifications, whether or not they were justified, to turn these media into daily collections of letters that would nullify their ability to inform.

This law is no longer in effect, but it appears as if the officials of the Interior Ministry's Communications Media Directorate are strangely longing for the legal mechanisms of Somozism. That department cannot, as it seeks to do, tell a newspaper that it cannot be published if it does not publish an Interior Ministry communique on such a date, such a place, or such a page. This has gone beyond abuse of authority to a simple delirium of power that sometimes causes a frantic itch in the personnel of that department.

Getting to the bottom of the issue, we will gladly detail each of the cases and allusions that the exalted girls of the Communications Media Directorate have made in their violent attacks directed with feminine ferocity at our editorial staff:

It is obvious that for several weeks, incidents with very particular characteristics, of wide repercussion, have occurred in different parts of the country and that military members have been the main protagonists. First, there have been countless incidents of harassment, threats, and pressures on the opposition members in all parts of the Republic. The government-controlled dailies and radio and television stations have helped create a threatening climate against any person or organization that says anything against the Sandinist party.

The first case was that of Conservative leader Eleazar Herrera, whose atrocious killing in a deserted area has still not been totally clarified. The authorities state that a girl's husband, jealous because she had an affair with Don Eleazar, arranged for three people, including Army members and deserters, to band together to kill Mr Herrera, in an act of passionate vengeance.

But this version is groundless. The accused stated they were forced to confess under police pressure. Herrera's widow discredits this version by saying the girl in question enjoyed her trust and respect. After she underwent strange physical examinations by the police, the girl flatly denied her relationship with Herrera, whom she said she respected and admired. One of Herrera's daughters was evicted from the courtroom. Herrera's family canceled their lawyer's power to file charges against the accused by publicly stating the charges are groundless. The judge met with the accused behind closed doors, heard their sworn statement, and turned what should have been publicly investigated into a mystery.

As we can see, Herrera's case is not clear at all, but full of confusion. Let it be clear that, for the first time, LA PRENSA has not hinted at the government's responsibility in this case, as the Interior Ministry communique said. LA PRENSA has only revealed the case's contradictions. These contradictions persist and prevent us from regarding the Herrera case as closed. We will overlook the detention of Bonifacio Miranda Bengoechea because its importance does not deserve comment.

Another incident with an impact as great as that of Mr Herrera is that of Francisco Aguilera Ruiz, the Independent Liberal leader who was killed by uniformed individuals inside his own home in Totogalpa. Here again individuals organized a death squad to carry out, according to the official report, another act of passionate vengeance. Again, as in the case of Herrera, an offended husband instead of facing his problems personally as is customary or killing his rival alone so as to not have witnesses, organized a team which, unfortunately for them, ran up against Aguilera Ruiz, who was armed and defended himself. The group confessed, but the alleged mastermind, who was seriously wounded by Aguilera Ruiz in self defense, survived a .22-caliber magnum shot to the chest, and drove, according to the official report, more than 150 km to a hospital. Nothing more has been heard of him or his state of health since the day of the attack.

For the second time LA PRENSA has limited itself to presenting these clear and absurd contradictions. It has not blamed the government, as the communique by the young officials of the Media Directorate passionately allege. Rather, it noted through logical deduction the fact that in a short space of time, two groups, including military men armed with rifles, killed two of the most prominent leaders, one Conservative and one Liberal, in the northern part of the country; a coincidence worthy of examination.

Later, the communique refers to the procession of six policemen wearing masks who went to the cemetery of Ciudad Sandino one night to bury a decaying body wrapped in a sheet. The police explained that it was the body of a man who drowned when a river flooded during the rains and his body was found floating in a lake. Without further ado the body wrapped in a sheet was taken at 2200 at night and buried in a shallow grave, according to witnesses.

That is, a drowned person was found, but the Managua police, despite their addiction to communiques, did not issue one announcing the appearance of these human remains, nor did it call for anyone to try to identify them, nor did it ask if anyone was missing who matched the description of the decaying body. The police, who disregard the fact that human beings have dignity regardless of their economic status, provoked this mystery by drawing the attention of the inhabitants of Ciudad Sandino with the spectacle of the night burial worsened by the presence of masked men. If the police had announced in a timely manner that it had found the body of an unidentified man and buried it, there would not have been any mystery.

The communique from the nervous girls at the Interior Ministry Media Directorate then refers to lawyer Joaquin Mejia, who barely escaped death in a brutal daylight attack by four thugs in the center of Managua.

We do not know whether the quickest solution to the case was found by Carlos Nunez, a member of the Sandinist party leadership, who, with the sharpness worthy of the best fictional detectives, said in the National Assembly that the opponents of the Sandinist party kidnapped and beat Mejia to blame and discredit the Sandinist government.

The only thing we can say with certainty is that the police solved in their own way in a few hours such difficult cases as those of Herrera and Aguilera, but they still do not have the slightest clue in Mejia's case. It is not our fault and LA PRENSA is not insinuating anything with this. The facts speak for themselves.

The case of the three dead in Quezalguaque has also not been encouraged by LA PRENSA. The fact is that Alvin Guthrie, secretary general of the CUS [Confederation of Unity for Trade Unions], said two of the dead were

members and the other an aspiring member of the CUS. They were brutally killed by another squad of men dressed in military uniforms, again carrying the ominous AK-47 rifles.

Guthrie mentioned the names of two of the victims and said the three victims had been threatened and were probably being watched due to their position as union members. In support of his charges, Guthrie sent a letter to the president of the Republic repeating his argument and asking for a thorough investigation. At the same time, labor leader Nilo Salazar said he is being harassed with death threats. LA PRENSA does not invent these facts and does not establish this atmosphere of tension. It only reports them.

The official version is that this atrocious attack, similar to that of the Zona Rosa in San Salvador, is that it was a robbery. Once more it is a gang armed with military rifles, which only the government has, but now it is not an amorous vendetta, but a search for money. However, if the gang can easily rob three drunken men and a terrorized waitress, why brutally exterminate them? The fact that one, two, or three of the victims had been military men is not strange. With the compulsory service law, who in Nicaragua is not a soldier?

Perhaps the young girls of the Interior Ministry's Media Directorate can explain this, although they have already closed the case. In paragraph 9, line 10 of their communique, when they refer to the three young peasants murdered in Quezalguaque, they say, "they were atrociously murdered by common criminals."

It is obvious that whoever signs such a statement is absolutely certain of what really occurred in that bar in Quezalguaque because not even the police have yet dared make such a conclusive statement and are still investigating. It is interesting to point out that EL NUEVO DIARIO published 24 hours later the names of three suspects in the crime. However, those names have not been mentioned again.

Naturally, we reject as nonsense the allusion that LA PRENSA wants, by making all these atrocities public, that Ronald Reagan obtain the military funds he has requested. It is necessary to assume a more sober and responsible position at this critical moment. It is obvious that for days gangs of men in uniforms, and with weapons that only the Army has, have commited brutal crimes that inevitably demonstrate common or similar elements. We have limited ourselves to reporting these grave events obeying the instructions of our pastor, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, "to defend life." And as citizens we have given warning that the country could be on the verge of a storm of violence, vengeance, more violence, and yet more violence from which we can still escape if, instead of harassing the independent media, the authorities would take control of the situation and truly guarantee respect for the lives of all Nicaraguans.

Paper 'Admonished'

PA0710220288 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2000 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Resolution issued by the Media Directorate of the Interior Ministry—date not given]

[Text] Whereas:

1. LA PRENSA in issue No 18004 of 6 October 1988 on page 2 printed an editorial entitled "An Unjust Order, Without Right or Reason"; this newspaper insists on its defamatory campaign of portraying the Nicaraguan Government as responsible for criminal acts—most of them clarified by the proper authorities and that are being dealt with by the courts;

2. By reaffirming its slander against the constitutional Nicaraguan Government, the newspaper portrays the government as threatening all people and organizations that say something against the Sandinist party, and of harassing independent media;

3. [LA PRENSA] infringes our Constitution under Article 66, which states: Nicaraguans have a right to truthful information; Article 67, which states: The right to report is a social responsibility and has to be exercised with strict respect for established constitutional principles; and Article 68, which states: The media serves national interests, the state will encourage the access of people and their organizations to the media, and will avoid having the media be subservient to foreign interests;

4. This campaign is an attack on the country's security because it not only casts doubt on the government's legal actions and its institutions, but it also holds the government responsible for events repudiated by Nicaraguan citizens as well as by international public opinion, by presenting false arguments to the Reagan administration to allow [the contras] to receive military funds to step up their military aggression under the premise that Nicaragua violates the Esquipulas accords.

The above points infringe what is established in Decree No 511 of 10 September 1980, which contains the following: Article No. 1: The country's media, whatever their nature, shall not divulge news or information that compromises or attacks the country's security or national defense.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with Article 1, paragraph C, and Article 2, paragraphs A and B of the general provisional media law; Article 1 of Decree No 511; and Article 4 of Decree No 708, the Interior Ministry decrees:

1. That LA PRENSA is admonished for the continued defamation campaign against the constitutional Nicaraguan Government as displayed in the editorial in issue No 18004 of 6 October 1988;

2. That this resolution must be published in LA PRENSA's 7 October 1988 issue.

[Signed] First Lieutenant Lissette Torres Morales, Director of the Interior Ministry's Communications Media Directorate

Ministry Summons Radio Corporacion Director
PA0710145788 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0428 GMT 7 Oct 88

["Information Bulletin" issued by the Interior Ministry in Managua on 6 October]

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Ministry Media Directorate

Managua, 6 October 1988

Mr Jose Castillo
Radio Corporacion Director

Mr Castillo,

With this note, we summon you to appear at our offices at 1100 tomorrow, 7 October. With nothing else to add,

Yours truly,

First Lieutenant Lissette Torres Morales
Director, Interior Ministry Media Directorate

Ramirez on Postponement of Reconciliation Meeting
PA0810192388 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1810 GMT 7 Oct 88

[News conference held by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado with unidentified reporters following inauguration of new criminal district court offices in Managua on 7 October—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Cardinal Obando y Bravo has expressed concern regarding the postponement of the National Reconciliation Commission's [CNR] meeting since he believes that the government's decision to delay the meeting is not in keeping with the Esquipulas accords.

[Ramirez] We are acting in accordance with the decree that created the CNR and the operations statute that was approved by the commission. We are, therefore, acting legitimately in postponing further commission meetings until after the Central American presidential summit. The government's decision is legitimate because it is based on the commission's founding decree and on the statute approved by CNR members, who are appointed by the Nicaraguan president from a list presented by each of the sectors represented on the commission.

I have received a letter signed by Cardinal Obando y Bravo and other members of the CNR, which is presently in recess. We are studying the letter to make sure we answer it correctly. I must, however, express my surprise that the letter summoned me to an upcoming commission meeting. The meeting is unacceptable since it does not comply with the CNR's statute that a general agreement is needed to hold a meeting. Such a consensus does not now exist.

[Reporter] Deputy Mauricio Diaz, who is his party's delegate to the CNR, stated that the commission's meeting did not have to be postponed.

[Ramirez] That is his opinion. The government has its own opinion. To reach a consensus, however, requires that all the commission members agree to hold a meeting, and this is not the case at present. We are willing to return to the CNR meetings after the presidential summit in El Salvador.

[Reporter] But they state in their letter to you that the commission is going to meet anyway. How do you feel about this meeting?

[Ramirez] Here citizens are free to meet whenever they want.

[Reporter] Dr Ramirez, press agencies have cited reports from Colombia on the presence of 500 armed men [in Colombia], who supposedly are Nicaraguans. What is the significance of this report? Did you know of this report on supposed armed Nicaraguans in Colombia?

[Ramirez] These kinds of stories are invented every day. Soon they will say we are in Chile [words indistinct] to Pinochet. These are inventions and I have no opinion on lies.

[Reporter] There are people saying that the government is persecuting the church, but we have just heard that yesterday the church hierarchy declared the Waslala parish priest persona non grata. What is your opinion of this?

[Ramirez] Well, these are situations that lie within the framework of the political confrontation in this country. We have seen that repressive measures are taken against priests who disagree with the actions of their superiors. We are sorry that this happens. We believe the Waslala priest is a man who has helped the peasants. He has been kidnapped by the counterrevolution in the past. This is not the first case. We have seen many like it since the beginning of the revolutionary government. Just because priests decide to work with the poor and humble, they are repressed by their own authorities.

Liberal Party Splinter Group Authorized
PA0810190488 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The organization of a new political party in our country has been officially authorized, making it the 13th political party to be legally registered with the

National Council of Political Parties (CNPP). The new organization, to be known as the Independent Liberal Party of National Unity (PLIUN), is led by Assemblyman Eduardo Coronado and is an important splinter group of the Independent Liberal Party, which is under the personal control of Virgilio Godoy.

The situation is explained by Assemblyman Carlos Alonso, the leader of what will be the PLIUN, in an interview given to reporter Edgar Barberena.

[Begin recording] [Barberena] The CNPP authorized Dr Eduardo Coronado to begin structuring what will be known legally as the Independent Liberal Party of National Unity, or PLIUN. The authorization was signed by CNPP Executive Secretary Jose Luis Villavicencio in the absence of CNPP President Hugo Mejia, who is currently out of the country. [passage omitted]

[Alonso] Yesterday, Professor Luis Villavicencio informed us that our petition to carry out the necessary work to organize the PLIUN had been approved, and he authorized us to perform these kinds of activities. In essence, what we are doing is fulfilling the legal requirements laid down by the CNPP for the formation of political parties. We are not going to organize a directorate at this stage, but our entire party structure was established when we held our Independent Liberal Party assembly in La Cartuja, Matagalpa. We were not recognized by the CNPP at that time and that is why we are now fulfilling the necessary requirements to become registered.

The directorate we will present to the CNPP is the same one that was part of the former Independent Liberal Party and that was elected in La Cartuja. Dr Eduardo Coronado is the president of the directorate; Dr Rodolfo Robelo Herrera is the vice president; I, Carlos Alonso, am the secretary general; Dr Lopardo Martinez is the deputy secretary general; and we also have department directorates. [passage omitted]

The only thing that remains for us to do is to confirm these directorates and to report to the appropriate entities within the party so that they will be ready for their next job, which is to meet in Managua. At least nine party directorates will meet in Managua as required by the CNPP to officially register the party. [passage omitted] [end recording]

EPS Reports Clashes With Contras in Matagalpa

PA0910003988 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Report by Adolfo Navarrete from Matagalpa]

[Excerpt] Seven counterrevolutionaries have been killed in battles with the EPS during the last few days near Matiguas and Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department.

Sources from Unit 361 in Matiguas reported that during the middle of the week, the (?Crescencio Rosales Rapid Hunter Battalion) engaged a group of approximately 40 counterrevolutionaries at a place known as Cerro El Aguacate, 15 km south of Rio Blanco. Three mercenaries were killed and two AK rifles and two U.S.-made knapsacks were seized.

The same military source noted that during a reconnaissance operation in the area of (Bonabona), 25 km east of Matiguas, the battalion again engaged a group of approximately 30 counterrevolutionaries. Four contras were killed. Three antipersonnel mines, two FAL rifles, and one knapsack—all U.S.-made—were seized. [passage omitted]

Panama

Nation Not To Participate in PCC Board Meeting

PA1110004088 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2310 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] A plan whereby Panama Canal Commission [PCC] funds would be used to evacuate PCC employees and their relatives to the United States in case of emergency was reported today by PCC Panamanian representatives. This was reported in a news conference in which it was also announced that Panama would not participate in the next PCC board meeting.

For the second consecutive time, our country will not participate in the PCC meeting, scheduled to be held 12-13 October in New Orleans, Louisiana. This was reported today at a news conference held by DEPAT [Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate] Director Major Daniel Delgado, Deputy Director Gilberto Perez, and Oyden Ortega, Panamanian representative at the PCC Board of Directors.

According to Oyden Ortega, Panama is not participating because the meeting is not to be an institutional one as it should be, and not because Panama has refused to participate. Panama has made every effort to participate, despite U.S. refusals to allow the Panamanian delegates to do so, Ortega said.

[Begin Ortega recording] The Panamanian delegation decided, along with Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter, not to attend this meeting scheduled to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, because under these circumstances, it would not be an institutional meeting, which it should be. This is considered to be another U.S. Government manuever to prevent the proper implementation of the Panama Canal Treaties. [end recording]

It was also reported that the meeting was to discuss, among other points, a plan to relocate U.S. employees working for the PCC in case of emergency. According to the board members, the plan would cost $10 million,

which must be paid by the PCC and which consists of the evacuation of employees and their relatives to U.S. territory if their lives are considered to be in danger.

Maj Delgado said this is a crazy and farfetched plan because no U.S. official's life is in danger. Even though the plan has not yet been approved, 153 U.S. families have already signed up for it:

[Begin Delgado recording] We believe there is no danger, not only for the lives of the U.S. citizens and their relatives working for the PCC and for the members of the U.S. Army, but for U.S. citizens living in Panama, approximately 50,000 people. Through this plan—which has not been drafted by the PCC, but by the U.S. Embassy—the United States wants to allow those U.S. employees from the PCC to send their relatives to the United States, at PCC expense during critical times; that is, the PCC will pay them for their travel expenses and for the time they remain in the United States. This would include plane tickets, travel expenses, and another series of expenses, which we believe will be charged to the PCC without a justifiable reason. We believe the United States wants to continue spending PCC funds to prevent the Panamanian people and government from receiving the economic benefits from the proper implementation of the Panama Canal Treaties. [end recording]

Noriega Lauds Military Fair, Nationalist Stance

PA0810194888 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1757 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Interview with General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces, by Arnulfo Beltran at the second Agricultural-Military Fair at the Rio Hato Base in Cocle Province on 7 October—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Beltran] This was formerly a U.S. base for aggression; now it is used for production and teaching. What does this mean in the context of national liberation?

[Noriega] It means that the dogmatic principles of our military organization have another framework. This framework is our geopolitical reality. Our country has a service economy and its wealth is its geographic location. Therefore, its system of defense is fundamental. That is why the name of our organization is defense forces, because we are not an offensive force. If we see the past use of this land where we are talking right now... [changes thought] We see here Torredo, who has his recorder on along with yours of Radio Nacional, along with other journalists who have squeezed in here.

When I was studying at Fort Gullick, we used to come here for infantry tank maneuvers. The tanks used to pass through here because this is dry terrain, especially suited for tank movements. There has been a great change since they [the United States] left this base. They left it abandoned and destroyed, with the bathrooms filled with cement and the barracks completely destroyed. We have transformed it into a temple of teaching, of military training for the Panamanian youth. As part of our development plans, it has also been turned into an agricultural training center. Why? Because our geopolitical situation and our geographic position force us to do what? To wage war against what? Against precisely what we are doing here, against hunger, poverty, and ignorance.

There is no reason why we should go fight or meddle in U.S. affairs, or say that Bush or Dukakis is better. We are not interested in that. We are concerned about what the Panamanians need to eat. Why should we have an offensive force against Costa Rica if they are our neighbors and we maintain a border free of cannons? Friendship is what makes that security possible. This was shown today by 40 Costa Ricans led by Ricardo Neilly, the founder of Ciudad Neilly [in Costa Rica], who came to see our fair. That is our war. That is our development plan. That is why there is a big difference between seeing an infantry tank and an agricultural military fair. There is a big difference between how a gringo and how a Panamanian who loves freedom and peace sees this.

[Beltran] [Question indistinct]

[Noriega] [Words indistinct] I want to state that my nationalist attitude is nothing new. I did not learn to be nationalist when I was 45, 47, or 48. Instead, I learned to be nationalist the first time I saw a gringo shooting a fellow student at the National Institute. That is when I became a nationalist. All the Panamanian people were nationalists on 4th of July Avenue. They have been nationalists since 1904. I was always a nationalist during my life as a student. When I was an officer, I was a speaker on 9 January 1964 at the funeral of the martyrs in Colon. I was the speaker for the former National Guard. I expressed the same nationalist concepts against the U.S. aggression. I also saw Puerto Ricans die in front of the Cabaret 61 when they confronted the people of Colon and when the people of Colon shot at them from the old Masonic building.

Solis Comments on Amnesty Prior to Elections

PA0710161988 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 1-A

[Article by James Aparicio]

[Text] Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma has said a political amnesty prior to the 1989 elections must "be subject to a commitment to solve the Panamanian crisis among Panamanians."

Solis Palma noted that the 1989 elections will be held "without conditions." He warned, however, that the only requirement "is to be Panamanians first, and then we can talk about everything else."

The president said no country grants amnesty to criminals "just because elections are going to be held," referring to the arrest of 34 people accused of conspiring against national security and to the closure of 7 opposition news sources.

The authorities closed the newspapers LA PRENSA, EXTRA, EL SIGLO, and QUIUBO and the radio stations Radio Mundial, Radio KW Continente, and Radio Sonora, accusing them of conspiring against the economy and the constitutional government. Those media are now under investigation.

"We are prepared to hold talks. The only requirement is to be Panamanians first, and then we can talk about everything else," Solis Palma reiterated. He criticized the opposition for demanding justice for the detainees while not demanding that the detainees stop conspiring against the state.

Solis Palma warned that under the current circumstances, allowing the media "to attack our country and serve foreign nations" is unacceptable.

"I know of no country engaged in a war, as we are, that allows its citizens to betray their fatherland and side with the United States. The United States is promoting this conspiracy," Solis remarked.

He stressed that solving the crisis will depend on the good will of businessmen "and the information provided by the media." "The media must be more patriotic and not try to topple the government," he added.

The president noted that the scope of the crisis has been exaggerated. He said that in most cases the crisis is "psychological," and he asked the Panamanian people "to have faith" in the country's future.

Labor Leader Takes Sanctuary at Nunciature

PA0710145588 Panama City Radio Alegre in Spanish 1310 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Isaac Rodriguez, the secretary general of the Union of Workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [SITIRHE] and the most active and well-known antigovernment labor leader, took refuge 1 week ago at the apostolic nunciature, according to a reliable source. The source added that Rodriguez was taken to the Holy See's diplomatic mission by Panamanian Auxiliary Bishop Oscar Brown. Papal Nuncio Msgr Sebastian Laboa has reportedly negotiated a government-authorized departure of the labor leader from the country. Msgr Brown and Msgr Laboa could not be reached for comment, and nunciature officials said they had no information on the matter.

On Monday, military security officers briefly detained three SITIRHE labor leaders, who were picked up by the authorities while riding in an automobile with Msgr Brown.

SITIRHE has been involved in most of the labor unrest that has occurred in recent weeks. In late September, the union took over the Panama City archbishop's office.

The government is accusing Rodriguez of sabotage and clandestine activities. He is also accused of causing nationwide blackouts, as occurred on 16 March when a blackout lasted up to 27 hours in some parts of the country. That blackout coincided with a foiled military coup against General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Nuncio Denies Report

PA1010215788 Panama City Radio Alegre in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Sebastian Laboa issued a call to Panamanians to seriously try to reach an understanding, taking into consideration the difficult times the country is going through.

The Holy See's representative in Panama said that although his name has been mentioned 100,000 times as a mediator in the Panamanian crisis, he has never been handed a formal request to that effect. However, he made it clear the foundations and the psychological conditions for a dialogue do not exist, much less for mediation. According to Msgr Laboa, to mediate between the government and the opposition, we must first understand each other and work toward preparing ourselves for a dialogue.

On a different topic, the high-ranking prelate denied that Isaac Rodriguez, general secretary of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, IRHE, whom the authorities accuse of involvement in a subversive plot, was staying at the Holy See's diplomatic mission after being granted asylum. However, Laboa acknowledged an IRHE worker named Gonzalez had stayed 24 hours at the nuncio's residence, claiming his life was in jeopardy; however, according to Laboa, the man had already gone.

Argentina

Caputo Returns; Comments on Falklands Talks

PY0710220088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1747 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Oct (NA)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today said that he has the impression that "there is a slight possibility" that there will be negotiations with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands, seeking a solution to the conflict.

Caputo made this remark during a news conference at Ezeiza Airport at noon today. He was recently appointed president of the 43d UN General Assembly.

Caputo will stay in Argentina until Sunday, when he will return to New York. Today he met with President Raul Alfonsin and his closest aides at the Foreign Ministry.

It has been learned that Caputo is planning to meet Radical leaders tomorrow to talk about his nomination for heading his party ticket to the Chamber of Deputies for the Federal Capital. This afternoon he will appear on a Channel 13 television program

The minister refused to confirm the possibility of negotiations over the Malvinas Islands. He asked that his words be interpreted as accurately as possible, so as "not to disappoint anyone."

He denied that in his speech to the United Nations he said that he, in his capacity as president of the UN General Assembly, will adopt an equidistant position on the Malvinas islands' issue. He said that this interpretation was made by Justicialist presidential candidate Carlos Menem. "I believe he did not read my speech or understand what I said," the minister noted.

He stressed that during his meetings with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, he noted that the United States has expressed its willingness to meet with the Latin American countries in order to address economic problems.

He called on the international community "to exercise strong pressure" so that the world's next priority concern become "the economic development of third world countries."

Caputo said that during his time as UN General Assembly president he has managed "to gather, on several occasions, people who until a short time ago were each other's unrelenting enemies, and each side has told me about the changes that they would like to see in the position of the adversary."

He stressed that "the world is rapidly changing," mentioning Vadim Medvedev, who he referred to as "the second man in the USSR," adding that Medvedev has said that "it is no longer possible to imagine a totally controlled economy," and that "collectively owned property is unacceptable." Caputo said that this is "a revolution for the USSR."

Caputo added that in his capicity as UN General Assembly president he has met with 20 chiefs of state and 40 foreign ministers, that "bilateral issues of immediate interest were addressed" during the meetings, and that this fact has signified a recognition of the role played by Argentina.

He said that Argentina can fall "considerably behind" if it does not join "the bandwagon" of a world that "is rapidly changing."

About the Chilean plebiscite, he responded in his capacity as foreign minister by saying that the outcome is "a victory for democracy."

"It is obvious that each country that advances toward democracy contributes to the security of each one of us," he stressed.

More on Falklands, Debt

PY0710181388 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] This morning Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said there is a slight possibility of a solution to the Malvinas Islands conflict in the near future.

Regarding the foreign debt, Caputo streessed the need for a continuous pressure on industrialized countries to get them to negotiate, but we do not need a club of complainers, he said.

Caputo made these remarks at a news conference at Ezeiza Airport upon his return from New York for the first time since his election as president of the 43d UN General Assembly.

Tension Within Army Due To Salaries Denied

PY0810131388 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Defense Secretary Juan Gauna has admitted that this is a period of anxiety within the Armed Forces due to the forthcoming changes in assignments and promotions that can take place. Gauna has thus reconfirmed remarks by Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena.

Moreover, General Juan Mabragana, commander of the II Corps, has stated that salaries are being paid in accordance with agreements signed. We hope to continue receiving our monthly salaries in the same manner, he added.

He thus denied reported tension within the Army because of the salary issue.

Chile

Pinochet: 'No Deals,' No Constitution Changes

PY1010031588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0256 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 9 Oct (EFE)—Today Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet, who was defeated in the 5 October plebiscite, said there will be no "deals," nor will the 1980 Constitution be changed, as demanded by the opposition.

After winning the plebiscite, opposition leaders invited the Armed Forces and the government to begin talks on possible mechanisms to amend the Constitution.

In a statement to local media in the Bucalemu summer resort, 130 km east of Santiago, Pinochet asserted: "We abide by the terms of the Constitution, and the deadlines established therein will be strictly observed."

The chief of state added: "I have acknowledged the no-vote victory (in the plebiscite) but this does not mean we are going to change the Constitution, because the Chileans have not voted for a constitutional amendment." The opposition, on the other hand, said that the Chilean people voted against Pinochet and his regime. The opposition is requesting talks with the military to modify the Constitution and to facilitate—as soon as possible—the holding of presidential and congressional elections. The proposed congress will have the power to modify the Constitution.

According to the Constitution, after the no-vote triumph direct elections for president, senators, and deputies are to be held by the end of 1988. The senate will be made up of 35 senators, 9 of whom will be handpicked, not elected.

Today Pinochet said: "If they (the opposition) want changes they will not have them. The Presidency will be renewed according to the Constitution in 1990."

The chief of state invited the Chilean people "to remain calm because the pre-established agenda will be complied with, since there will no disasters or deals."

"Despite the fact that there are some people who change their minds when a sector wins, this demonstrates that they have little convinction, and that we must remain united so no one will come and tell us how to do things."

Further on Remarks

PY1010132788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet has stated that nothing will disrupt the timetable set forth in the Constitution and urged all those who had voted yes to remain united and have faith in the future of the country.

Timetables have been set and they shall be strictly complied with. Just because the no-vote has won the plebiscite, we will not start changing the Constitution, Pinochet said.

The chief executive talked to the press at his residence in Bucalemu, where a long motorcade carrying Chileans from all over the country had arrived to convey to the president their total support.

President Pinochet, who at that very moment was attending an open-air mass, invited all those present to join him.

Dressed in sports clothes, the president exchanged a few words with the press, publicly thanking the people who had come to convey their support and also those who had done the same at his residence in Santiago.

The president made it clear that the plebiscite decided the fate of a presidential nomination but had nothing to do with the terms of the Constitution. He added that if the Constitution had not been changed in 8 years, there was no reason to do so now. [recorded passage indistinct]

The chief executive sent a message to the more than 3 million people who voted for him, asking them to stay calm because everything will go ahead as planned. He said that he did not want any disasters. There will be no disasters or deals here, he said, adding that the people established the timetable in 1980. [recorded passage indistinct]

The president concluded by asking all those who supported him at the plebiscite to stick together, emphasizing that unity is now the most important thing for the future of the country.

Interior Minister on Possible Opposition Dialogue

PY0710161188 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1534 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Report by Eliana Enriquez from La Moneda Palace]

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez today indicated that if it is necessary he will invite members of the opposition for a dialogue.

The head of the cabinet made this remark just before chairing a cabinet meeting at La Moneda Palace in which he will inform the ministers on the instructions he received from President Pinochet on the new political stage that has begun.

Fernandez indicated that he is ready to talk with anyone who wants to talk to him. He stated that he had no problem and that if the topic to be discussed came within his responsibilities he will speak to whoever it is necessary to talk to.

He said that he did not intend to extend invitations to members of the opposition, because there are many things that have to be perfected, many things on which to advance. But if it is necessary, he stressed, I will do so.

We are going to act with the flexibility and pragmatism that the circumstances demand, he indicated.

Flexible Position Planned

PY0810014988 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile in Spanish 2330 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez today said that he is willing to hold talks with opposition parties and that the government will exercise the flexibility and pragmatism required by the circumstances. Fernandez this morning met with all the ministers of state.

[Begin recording] [Fernandez] We have much faith, enthusiasm, and confidence that we will get good results with the plans we have enforced. We believe that the policies enforced by the government benefit all Chileans. The great majority of the 3 million Chileans who have supported us will not be disappointed. We will continue to support not only those 3 million, but all Chileans as well. With the immense support of the people, with the moral force that we receive from the Armed Forces and Carabineros, and with the power of the Constitution, we will move forward on the path of progress under the leadership of his excellency the president. I met him this morning for a long time, and I received precise instructions in this regard. I saw that he has impressive vigor. With the support shown by the people, the president has been strengthened and he feels increasingly committed to all sectors. He is willing to make efforts, to sacrifice, and to work for the benefit of all Chileans. He also asked me to be particularly careful in the maintenance of public order and to preserve the tranquillity of all Chileans. Consequently, I want to point out that we will adopt all necessary measures to preserve the tranquillity to which all Chileans are entitled and which groups that promote violence are trying to disrupt.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, you are speaking as if you had won the plebiscite....

[Fernandez, interrupting] Right.

[Reporter] But the immense majority....

[Fernandez, interrupting] The immense majority of Chileans are with the president. The rest of the votes must be divided into 16, because the Command for the No-Vote included 16 parties. You should divide 55 percent of the votes into 16. Is there any way to compute it? No Chilean political sector has the support that President Pinochet enjoys now.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, what is the interpretation of the fact that the president has confirmed the cabinet?

[Fernandez] We must view it on the basis of the interpretation that the president himself has given to the plebiscite, that is, a strengthening and confirmation of his policies and actions.

[Reporter] Does the policy of preservation of public order mean that violent actions like the one that occurred last night will not be repeated?

[Fernandez] Violent actions can happen again, but they will be strictly repressed, with all the weight of the law.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, will there be talks with opposition parties on this new stage?

[Fernandez] I am ready to talk with whoever wants to talk with me. I have no problems at all, and whoever wants to talk with me [words indistinct] if the matter to be discussed falls within my jurisdiction I will talk with whoever it is necessary to talk to.

[Reporter] Will you invite them?

[Fernandez] No. For the time being I am not considering extending that type of invitation, because I have many other things to work on and improve. If it becomes necessary, however, I will do it. I want to make it clear that we will exercise the flexibility and pragmatism required by the circumstances.

[Reporter] What will be the next political steps?

[Fernandez] In his important speech last night, the president defined a very clear path. We are fulfilling the political plan and the constitutional deadlines that the people established through their vote in 1980. This is my mission, my commitment, and my ideal. [end recording]

No-Vote Coalition To Press for Early Elections

PY0810211988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1728 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 8 Oct (EFE)—Following their victory in the 5 October plebiscite, the Chilean political parties that oppose General Augusto Pinochet's regime are discussing proposals for common agreements.

The leaders of the 16 political parties that joined forces in the plebiscite to oppose Pinochet's staying in power until 1998 have stated that next week they will reach decisions on the course of future joint actions.

These parties are committed to preserving the unity of the umbrella organization, which includes rightwing, centrist, and leftwing parties, with the exception of the so-called "radicals," such as the Communist Party.

Gutemberg Martinez, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party, has announced that on Monday, 10 October, his party will issue an official declaration

outlining the principles for any further joint action by the umbrella organization, especially concerning the intended negotiations with the Armed Forces.

Martinez said that "our mandate, which stems from the agreement between the 16 parties, implies that after the victory of the no-vote an agreement should be sought between civilians and the Armed Forces."

Patricio Aylwin, president of the Christian Democratic Party and spokesman for the umbrella organization, stated on the day of the plebiscite that the main subject for discussion with the Armed Forces is a course of action that can lead, as soon as possible, to the election of a president for the nation and of a national congress with constituent assembly powers.

Other parties of the coalition have drawn up positions that will be put up for consideration by the 16 parties of the Command for the No-Vote.

The Humanist Party contends that General Pinochet "has been stripped of authority" by the people and that "he must resign, because it cannot be conceived that the person who has for so many years been responsible for so many outrages can be the one to lead the transition to full democracy."

The Democratic Socialist Radical Party came up in favor of continuing the "social mobilization," which has proved to be an "appropriate tool in advancing toward full democracy."

The Christian Democratic Party reasserted that "Chile can no longer tolerate abuses," and it called on all the coalition parties to continue acting with the same good sense as they did during the plebiscite period, because this is what the country "deserves and needs."

For the United Popular Action Movement, MAPU, the important thing is to maintain opposition unity in order "to demand that Pinochet resign, that the popular will be respected, that free elections be held, and that constitutional changes be made."

The moderate faction of the Socialist Party, headed by Ricardo Nunez, proposed that a grand civilian agreement be reached to study and propose the necessary constitutional reforms, an agreement among not only the opposition parties but also those that, although they supported the regime in the plebiscite, agree that the 1980 Constitution should be modified.

The Nunez-led Socialists reaffirmed the need to maintain the 16-party coalition as a "force to conduct the process of democratic transition," and as "an appropriate platform to launch a single candidate of the democratic forces for the next presidential election."

Aylwin Appeals for Flexibility

PY0710212888 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The people want presidential elections to be held as soon as possible, said Christian Democratic Party president and spokesman for the 16- Party Coalition for the No-Vote, Patricio Aylwin. He was replying to questions posed by Radio Chilena, which asked for his opinion on General Augusto Pinochet's speech delivered last night over nationwide radio and television network. I hope he thinks it over and takes a flexible position, Aylwin said, and then added that if he does not change the democratization timetable it will mean that the loser will continue in the presidential post for another 1 year and 5 months.

[Begin Aylwin recording] I find Pinochet's remarks positive in that he will respect the popular will, and that he said so twice. But I find negative Pinochet's assertion that the democratization timetable established in the 1980 Constitution will not be changed. These are contradictory remarks. The people now want presidential elections to be held as soon as possible. [end recording]

Aylwin stressed that the chief of state has taken a stand, based on the 1980 Constitution, that is at odds with his stated assertion of abiding by the will of the people.

[Begin Aylwin recording] I hope Pinochet will think it over and be more flexible, realizing that the country demands a mutually agreed upon solution. [end recording]

The president of the Christian Democratic Party and spokesman for the 16-Party Coalition for the No-Vote pointed out that solutions must stem from a consensus if we are to halt further polarization of forces. He said that the spirit of belligerence and confrontation must be replaced by a spirit of peace.

Events, Situation in Wake of Plebiscite Viewed

Volio Lauds Government Attitude

PY0610200188 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] UN human rights observer Fernando Volio Jimenez has said that the result of the plebiscite is an extraordinary beginning to the solution of some problems that still need to be solved.

This morning, Carabineros Director Rodolfo Stange met in his office with Volio, who said that the government's willingness to make public the victory of the no-vote shows its responsibility and respect for the laws and the sovereign will of the people.

He said, however, that there are still human rights problems, adding that the victory of the no-vote is an extraordinary beginning to their resolution.

Youth Wounded in 'Riots' Dies

PY0710124988 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] We are now touring Bernardo O'Higgins Avenue which is littered with paper. Some of the fences of the avenue gardens were knocked down during the serious riots that took place last night.

(Luis Silva Jara), 15, who was participating in the demonstration that had, as its theme, Happiness Is Coming, died at 0215 today at the Neurosurgical Hospital where he was taken to receive medical assistance. The young boy was hit by a bullet during a confusing incident in Las Rejas where a group of demonstrators, despite the appeal of their leaders, did not remain calm and destroyed public property and attacked policemen.

Some 100 persons were arrested last night by Carabineros for disrupting public order. Moreover, aproximately 60 persons were granted medical assistance at the first aid post after being wounded during the aforementioned demonstration.

(Carlos Espinoza Villalobos), who was about to board a bus in downtown Santiago, sustained a bullet wound in the left leg. He is now receiving medical assistance at the Central First Aid Post. His wife, who was with him at the time, was unhurt.

Several portions of the fence that divides O'Higgins Avenue have been knocked down. Several taxi drivers have cleared the area in order to make it possible for traffic flow in the area to resume this morning. Other demonstrations, some calm and others very violent, were registered throughout the night in other Santiago neighborhoods.

More on Demonstrations

PY0710125588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1212 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 7 Oct (EFE)—Three people have already died after the incidents that occurred last night and early this morning in several areas of Santiago, where groups of people were celebrating the no-vote victory in the plebiscite.

According to a Radio Chilena, the archbishopric's radio station report, the third victim has been identified as Carlos Morales, 28, who was wounded last night by bullets in the shantytown of Jose Maria Caro, located in the southern sector of Santiago.

Patricio Palma Navarrete, 18, was also mortally wounded in the same shantytown and he died on the way to hospital.

Luis Alberto Silva, 15, was shot in the head in Las Rejas sector, located in western Santiago. He was taken to the Neurological Institute, where he died early this morning.

According to Radio Chilena, in addition to the 3 deaths, there are also an undetermined number of people wounded by bullets, and at least 40 persons have been arrested.

'Hundreds of Thousands' Celebrate

PY0710232688 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] It is now 1913 and the rally with which no-vote supporters are celebrating their victory in the plebiscite is about to end.

People are now beginning to leave seats in the western sector of O'Higgins Park in an orderly way, and the people near the stage are also beginning to leave.

Hundreds of thousands of Chileans came to the park to express their happiness over the victory of the no-vote. [passage omitted]

Journalist Patricia Rodriguez is at O'Higgins Park.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] Thanky you. As was already reported by Angel Bozan, people are leaving in total calm and normalcy following the instructions given by leader Ricardo Hormazabal. As the sun slowly sets, thousands of flags [words indistinct] sector and the people begin to leave, following the instructions. We reiterate that calmness and tranquillity prevail. Political leaders have already begun to leave and to go home, thus ending the large rally that celebrated the no-vote victory in the plebiscite. [end recording]

17 Injured at O'Higgins Park

PY0810020388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The celebration of the no-vote victory at O'Higgins Park has turned into a large scale disorder, in which private and public property was damaged, scores of people were arrested for robbery, and a number of people were injured. [passage omitted]

Leaders of the United Left, for their part, reported that unknown individuals fired shotguns against some demonstrators, injuring 17 people, who had to be taken to the first aid posts. [passage omitted]

Carabineros on Rally, Injuries

PY0710231588 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2246 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] The Carabinero forces have reported that as of 1800 today, the 7 people who were injured at the rally at O'Higgins Park have reported to the central first aid station. Five of them were hit by stones and two women were hit by shotgun fire. The police claim to be unaware of the circumstances in which these injured people, who arrived at the first aid station using different means of transport, were injured.

Radio Chilena, however, can report that they were injured by groups deployed on Ejercito and Republica Streets. These groups are trying to disrupt order, while the demonstrators who attended the rally at O'Higgins Park are going home in an absolutely normal way.

More on 'Hostile Actions'

PY0810021688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0007 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 7 Oct (EFE)—Chanting slogans and waving Chilean flags, Chilean opposition groups today celebrated at O'Higgins Park the victory of the no-vote in the plebiscite. Hundreds of thousand people attended the rally, which lasted 3 hours and which included performance by musical groups.

The rally concluded without a speech by any leader of Command for the No-Vote, the 16-party umbrella organization that sponsored the rally to celebrate the no-vote victory, through which the people rejected Pinochet's bid to continue in office for 8 more years.

Foreign correspondents estimated the crowd at 700,000 people. The motto of the rally was happiness and reconciliation.

At least 10 people were wounded by shotgun fire earlier this afternoon as they converged on O'Higgins Park, in the central-southern part of Santiago. According to witnesses, the shots were fired from nearby military units.

Radio reporters said military personnel engaged in hostile actions against demonstrators who were marching near their military units.

Ten people wounded by shotguns fire were treated at the public first aid post. Those shots were apparently fired by military personnel.

One of the wounded is in serious condition because one pellet, which hit him near one eye, was lodged in his brain.

The demonstrators were still leaving O'Higgins Park early tonight, but there have been no further reports of incidents.

'Score' of Journalists Injured

PY0810031188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0217 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Santiago, 7 Oct (EFE)—Foreign correspondents accredited to cover the presidential plebiscite reported today that a score of foreign journalists have been injured because of repressive police actions.

As a result, Eduardo Orenstein, Uruguayan-born cameraman of the U.S. network CBS, EL MERCURIO Chilean photographers Ricardo Kelly and Victor Calzadilla, and U.S. NEWSWEEK magazine journalist Chris Morris were all hospitalized.

At a news conference held at a downtown hotel across from La Moneda Palace, the arrest of a Canadian reporter and a CBS reporter, not yet identified, was reported. [passage omitted]

While covering a spontaneous demonstration in downtown Santiago on Thursday to celebrate the victory of the no-vote, five journalists were beaten. Free-lance photographer Sergio Lainz, a Spaniard, was badly beaten on his back and arms. As a result, his left arm had to be put in a cast and he lost two cameras. Daniel Duch, a Spaniard, managed to escape unhurt from submachine-gun fire by the police.

The Brazilian magazine MANCHETE reported that T. da Costa; Armando Romero Baez, Chilean correspondent for the Spanish press agency CONMUTEC; and Alvaro Hoppe, reporter for the Chilean magazine LA EPOCA, were injured. [passage omitted]

More on Injured Journalists

PY0810023788 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 0225 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] At least three foreign correspondents, including an AFP photographer, were injured tonight in Santiago during clashes between antigovernment demonstrators and Carabineros personnel.

AFP photographer Cris Bouroncle, a Peruvian citizen, sustained injuries in the head and face when Carabineros personnel kicked him, clubbed him, and destroyed his cameras, Bouroncle himself charged before being taken to a first aid station.

The incidents occurred at O'Higgins Park in downtown Santiago. CBS cameramen Ricardo Correa and NEWSWEEK photographer Christopher Morris were also injured during the incidents.

Journalists Draft Protest

PY0810113088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0603 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 8 Oct (EFE)—This morning a group of foreign correspondents who came to Chile to cover the 5 October plebiscite forecefully protested aggressions against them and the lack of guarantees for the performance of their duties.

At a meeting held in the international press room set up at a downtown Santiago hotel, a group of journalists drafted a declaration that will be studied at a meeting scheduled for today. All foreign correspondents have been asked to participate in this meeting.

The draft states that more than 17 foreign media professionals have been injured by Carabineros, while others were arrested without any regard for the credentials issued by the Chilean Government.

The draft declaration criticizes "the brutal intimidation methods" of the carabineros and other agents of special security forces. On behalf of more than 1,000 accredited foreign journalists who came to cover the plebiscite, the declaration states "the strongest possible protest" against General Augusto Pinochet's government.

This declaration, which the journalists plan to pass along to the UN and OAS human rights organizations, includes a list of 22 correspondents who were attacked. Photographs and media reports confirming the charges will be attacked to this declaration.

The following is a list of the media workers who have been attacked:

NAME	NATIONALITY	AFFILIATION
Sergio Lainz	Spanish	EFE photographer
Cristobal Bouroncle	French	AFP photographer
Liliana Prieto	American	NEWSDAY
Sergio Lopez	Chilean	FM3
Ricardo Correa	Chilean	CBS TV
Nancy Guzman	Colombian	—
Jose Luis Goldini	Argentine	—
Michael Smith	American	USA TODAY
Marty Lucas	—	—
Armando Romero Baez	Chilean	CONMUTEC photographer
Rodolfo Pouza	Argentine	TV Channel 13
Luis Enrique Arnez	Chilean	ARCHI-press photographer
Marietta Veruest	Dutch	BIJEEN
Joseph Goldman	American	VILLAGE VOICE, NY
Eduardo Orenstein	Uruguayan	CBS
Ricardo Hernandez	—	LIBERACION, Sweden
Ricardo Kelly	Chilean	EL MERCURIO
Pablo Valdez	—	CNN TV
Victor Calzadilla	Chilean	EL MERCURIO
Chris Morris	American	NEWSWEEK
Wesley Bore	American	SIPA
Carlos T. da Costa	Brazilian	—

In addition to these hurt or injured media workers, it seems that two Spaniards—Jordi Villarroel and Eduardo San Juan, of TV Channel 3 of Catalonia, Spain—were also injured and hospitalized, according to the committee of foreign correspondents that drew up the draft of the declaration.

However, a tour of the main clinics, hospitals, and first-aid stations did not confirm the two latter cases.

'Aggression' Toward Press Scored

PY0810194488 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] The Chilean Journalist Association issued a strong protest over the aggression against foreign and national correspondents and reporters. Journalist Association President Jaima Moreno Laval said the victims blame the attacks on the Carabineros Specialized Units.

[Begin Moreno recording] The Chilean Journalist Association Board of Directors strongly protests the aggression against foreign and national correspondents and reporters while they were performing their professional duties. Our colleagues hold the Specialized Units responsible for the attacks. The violent aggression against journalists contrasts with this historic moment, in which a majority of people in the country have chosen to live in freedom. The violence was directed particularly against foreign journalists who were here only to perform their professional duties and bring the truth about Chile to the outside world. [end recording]

Jaime Moreno Laval said that in the last few hours 10 journalists have been wounded—some of them have been treated in hospitals—and their cameras, sound equipment, and television equipment have been destroyed.

The association president expressed his concern at repression by the Carabineros, only days after the Carabineros director said his organization would grant journalists all possible help in fulfilling their duties.

[Begin Moreno recording] We protest the repression by the Carabineros. These incidents are particularly noteworthy because the Carabineros general director said the Carabineros would help the press in all ways to fulfill their duties.

We also charge that members of the official communications media have encouraged the aggressions.

Chilean journalists are deeply grateful to their foreign colleagues because for many years they have demonstrated their strong solidarity with the Chilean journalists' struggle for freedom of expression. We feel full of shame at this degrading aggression against them, and we express our solidarity and support for the victims. We reiterate that in Chile the violence is not promoted by the people who have demonstrated their joy in peace. The violence is promoted by the regime and by those who should be at the service of public order. [end recording]

Jaime Moreno said the seriousness of the situation will keep journalists alert. In the next few hours leaders of the journalists expect to meet with Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange to ask for an explanation and demand that his subordinates change their attitude.

Vina del Mar Rally Repressed

PY0810024088 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Several people were injured, more than 70 were detained, and people suffered from suffocation and fainting during spontaneous demonstrations last night in Vina del Mar, where more than 20,000 people gathered on Valparaiso Street, Vina Plaza, and Peru Avenue to celebrate the victory of the no-vote.

Everything seemed like a carnival, with the sounds of whistles, cheering, confetti, greetings, and applause of the people living in the buildings nearby. There were expressions of joy throughout the day. People embraced each other on the streets, and there was not a single incident. They even talked with Carabineros. Everything changed at night, however, when the antiriot police attacked the demonstrators with liquid irritants and tear gas grenades, turning more than ten blocks into a hell. The unreasonable attitude of Carabineros caused confusion in downtown Vina del Mar.

People fled in panic. Neither pregnant women nor children were spared. Most of the detainees were beaten so badly that the medical school of Vina del Mar publicly denounced the incident and will request investigation at the 2d Carabineros Station.

This incident was nothing like one in Valparainso, where 30,000 demonstrators held a rally without incident. There the police convinced a group of demonstrators to clear the streets.

The Vina del Mar prefecture today stated in a news conference that the action was taken because of provocations by individuals who waved the flags of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, the PCCh, and the Socialist Party.

It has been learned that some detainees will be released today and others will be put at the disposal of the court.

Concepcion Demonstrators Released

PY1010140988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1616 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 9 Oct (TELAM-EFE)—Leaders who oppose General Augusto Pinochet's military regime today reported that the 35 people who were arrested on 8 October during an opposition demonstration in Concepcion have been released.

During that demonstration, organized to celebrate the opposition's victory in the 5 October plebiscite, 12 people were injured, including a 9-year-old girl, who received buckshot wounds.

According to opposition leaders, the march held in Chile's third largest city, 500 km south of Santiago, was repressed by police forces using tear gas and water cannon.

A small plane buzzed the marchers and dropped tear gas cannisters into the crowd, causing panic among the people. Police authorities denied that they had anything to do with that incident.

Jose Ortiz, president of the Concepcion PDC [Christian Democratic Party] chapter, stated that it had been confirmed at the local airport that two small planes had taken off at the time of the incident, but the identity of the pilots and the owners of the planes was not made known.

Castro Said To Oppose Riots After No-Vote Victory

PY0810180488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2117 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Oct (EFE)—An envoy from Fidel Castro traveled to Chile at the end of September "to convey" the Cuban president's opposition to any "violent mobilization" if the no-vote were to win the plebiscite.

This information was published on the front page of today's issue of the newspaper EL HERALDO DE BUENOS AIRES. The paper adds that on 23 September the envoy—without giving any details—met with a "high-ranking Argentine Government official to inform him of his mission on this part of the continent.

The newspaper says the contents of the meeting were leaked by a "responsible source" from the Argentine secret service. The source added that "the Argentine Government agreed with Cuban position."

The source said: "The envoy's secret mission was extended in order to meet with local communists in Buenos Aires to try to persuade them not to issue declarations calling for an armed insurrection in the Southern Cone."

The source cited by the newspaper said "at the same time we were able to detect increased activity of the most important secret services of the world" in Chile.

The source added that these services "reported to their governments that former Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa Reyes had met with moderate sectors of Pinochet government's to convince them that it is important to become part of a transition government.

According to the source, "Jarpa's point of view has many followers within Pinochet's government. On 5 October, Jarpa met with some of the adherents and an officer close to the president" to begin building "bridges" between the two sectors.

The source said: "Our contacts assured us that a majority in the Chilean Armed Forces, although still hurting from the defeat, favor what is being called a political solution to the institutional situation of the country."

Communist Leader on Presidential Plebiscite

PM0710065488 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 29 Sep 88 p 12

[Interview with PCCh leadership member Volodia Teitelboim by Maite Pinero—date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Pinero] You have suggested that the opposition should organize to defend the vote. How?

[Teitelboim] Some people are proposing that, after voting, people should return home and wait for the results in front of their televisions. We think that the "no" majority should take to the streets that evening to prevent fraud and to demand that the result of the ballot be respected. The aim is not to storm the Bastille but to end the dictatorship. The people have chosen their slogan: "no until victory." This is not a return to the people's union or a socialist revolution. This means: no until democracy is restored. In our view, the street is not synonymous with unrest or chaos. The masses are mature and responsible. In this country in which 20,000 people have been assassinated, and 200,000 tortured, in which 2,500 people have disappeared, and 1.5 million are living in exile, it is time to end the dictatorship once and for all. But this will not happen automatically. It will not be granted as a favor by the regime. On 5 October, the people will be in the streets. They need a leadership which mobilizes them instead of tying their hands and sending them packing. Our duty as a communist party is to guide and stand by them, and it is also the opposition's duty. Our presence last Saturday at the huge rally held in Bandera park was a kind of test. It was very moving. There were thousands of young people there who were barely 3 years old when the coup d'etat took place. Their chant of "no until victory" which greeted us was proof that the people want a combative "no."

[Pinero] You have also proposed the formation of a provisional government. What will its objectives be?

[Teitelboim] It would be suicidal to agree to keep Pinochet. We must reach agreement as quickly as possible on the formation of a civilian government.

[Pinero] Your proposals have been rejected. Is there still any chance of agreement?

[Teitelboim] Agreement is urgently needed. As the date of the plebiscite approaches, the junta will try to revive an atmosphere of fear. It will have no hesitation in stepping up its provocations.

[Pinero] The dictatorship is trying to attract what it calls the "democratic opposition" to isolate the Marxists, in other words the united left. Can it succeed?

[Teitelboim] There are two oppositions. There is a legal opposition comprising the Christian Democrats, the Party for Democracy, the humanists, the radicals, and so forth. There is also an illegal opposition, "delinquents," according to the Constitution: the Communists, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, and Almeyda's Socialists. Despite the parody of "democracy," Almeyda, chairman of the united left, is still in prison even after 18 months.

Pinochet is handing out poisoned candy. The right and center are counting on the regime to push the left to the fringes and decapitate it; they think that this would guarantee them political hegemony. The same people think that they can reform fascism from within. They forget that fascism will continue as long as Pinochet remains in power. They are also seriously mistaken if they think that it is enough to send the dictatorship to a beauty shop to make it look presentable. [passage omitted]

Carabineros Deputy Director Asked To Resign

PY1010134888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Carabineros Deputy Director General General Oscar Torres has been asked to resign voluntarily because he has served the established number of years. Gen Torres himself confirmed this report and explained that his request for retirement is voluntary and irrevocable and that he is currently enjoying the annual leave that is coming to him. General Jorge Portillo, chief of order and security, is currently acting Carabineros deputy director general. Torres will formally leave the Carabineros on 1 December; his annual leave will be up on 15 November.

Shots Fired at U.S. Consulate in Santiago

PY0910190788 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1442 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 9 Oct (AFP)—Police sources reported that unidentified individuals fired shots at the U.S. Consulate in this capital today at dawn.

The attack, which did not have any major consequences, was perpetrated from a pickup truck that sped by a side street near the consulate. The consulate is located in downtown Santiago, in front of a park.

Relations between the Chilean military government and Washington have not been cordial the past few years, and by October this year they suffered another strain

when the U.S. State Department expressed its concern over alleged reports that President Pinochet intended to call off the plebiscite that decided his future in power.

In the plebiscite, which took place 5 October, Pinochet's nomination was rejected, opening the way for presidential elections to elect his successor, who should assume the Presidency in March 1990.

[Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 0013 GMT on 10 October, in a similar report, notes: "Carabineros forces (militarized police) held a shoot-out today at dawn with unidentified individuals in front of the U.S. Consulate in this capital. According to official reports, at 0130 (0430 GMT) Carabineros approached a vehicle containing four suspicious individuals who began shooting. According to the same sources, the Carabineros took cover behind some trees and returned fire. The incident ended with the suspects escaping. No victims were reported."]

Pinochet Supporters Attack PDC Leader's Home
PY1010005588 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0013 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Santiago, 9 Oct (TELAM-EFE)—Pinochet supporters attacked the home of Adolfo Zaldivar, a Christian Democratic Party [PDC] leader, today at dawn, according to Zaldivar.

Adolfo Zaldivar, who is a PDC counselor and brother of Andres Zaldivar, former president of the Christian Democratic International, said that a group of government supporters arrived in his home, located in western Santiago, and threw stones and promoted disorder in front of his house.

Zaldivar said some 100 people demonstrated in front of his house while the Carabineros, "who saw the whole scene," did nothing to intervene. [passage omitted]

FPMR Cell Dismantled; Arms Seized
PY0810120088 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile in Spanish 2330 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] An FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] terrorist cell was dismantled in the ninth region. Investigative police seized arms that had been smuggled through Carrizal Bajo and arrested three terrorists.

The arms were discovered in a house 15 km from Temuco, where an FPMR cell hid 8 M-16 rifles, 10 rifle clips, 360 rounds of ammunition, 500 dynamite sticks, and 24 primers.

The detainees were identified as Wilfredo Rojas Soto, Penelope Diaz Quitral, and Hilda Quitral Aguilera. The group was dismantled after the detention of Wilfredo Rojas Soto and Penelope Diaz. They were carrying 2 M-16 rifles and 360 rounds of ammunition to Temuco. The police later raised the house of Hilda Quitral Aguilera, where more arms, ammunition, and material for manufacturing bombs were found.

Terrorist Attack Causes 6 Oct Power Outage
PY0710175888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpt] A dynamite attack perpetrated by terrorists against high tension pylons was the reason for the blackout that affected a vast area of the country last night.

This information was disclosed through a communique issued by the National Electric Power, Inc. (ENDESA) which states that the attack was perpetrated against lines that were being repaired following previous terrorist attacks. [passage omitted]

PDC Leader Invited To Address European Parliament
PY0710175288 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Chilean Christian Democratic Party [PDC] Chairman Patricio Aylwin has been invited to visit the European Parliament. According to (Egon Flesh Edwin), President of the European Popular Party, Aylwin will explain to the European Parliament the consequences of the plebiscite held in Chile on 5 October, and outline the stages that will lead Chile to democracy following the victory of the no-vote at the plebiscite.

The PDC and the European parties affiliated with the European Popular Party are members of the Christian Democratic International.

Colombia

Peasant Reports Landing of 500 Unidentified Men
PA0710145488 Paris AFP in Spanish 1305 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 7 Oct (AFP)—Bogota's Radio Caracol reported early this morning that approximately 500 men have landed in the Gulf of Uraba on Colombia's Caribbean coast. The station said a peasant living in the area witnessed the landing.

A young peasant said he saw 2 grey boats arrive and saw approximately 500 men, speaking with a strange accent, leave the boats. He added that the men were carrying short weapons, shorter than the ones used by the Colombian Army.

The witness, who asked Radio Caracol to keep his identity secret, said he was frightened and did not go near the coast. However, he did see that the men, apparently Nicaraguans, were carrying long tubes and several boxes.

"I saw them from a distance. I did not get closer because I was afraid," added the young man, who did not give the exact date of the landing. [passage omitted on recent unrest in Uraba]

The Radio Caracol report, broadcast at 1100 GMT today, added that the men who landed in the Gulf of Uraba were dressed in fatigues. "The markings on their uniforms were slightly larger than the markings on a Colombian Army soldier's fatigues," the young man added. [passage omitted on background of Colombian rebel movements]

Supreme Court Abolishes Public Treaty
PA1110000988 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 8-c

[Excerpt] The Supreme Court of Justice yesterday abolished another public treaty for reasons similar to those leading to the abolition of the extradition treaty with the United States.

This time, it was Law No 37 of 1979, whereby the country adhered to the multilateral treaty on the enforcement of foreign arbitral sentences. It had been signed by Minister Designate German Zea Hernandez in the absence of the president at the time, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala.

The court ruled on a suit of unconstitutionality against the abovementioned law, deciding that when the minister signed the law, he had not been previously authorized through a specific constitutional power granted by the president.

Through this decision, the court affirmed one of the reasons it had given for declaring unconstitutional the law approving the Colombian-U.S. treaty on the extradition of nationals.

The two treaties in question were adopted by laws approved by German Zea Hernandez, as minister designated to replace President Turbay Ayala during his absence. [passage omitted]

Pipeline Sabotage Blamed on ELN Guerrillas
PA0810022588 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] An explosion has destroyed a section of the multipurpose pipeline running from Barrancabermeja to Bucaramanga. The explosion occurred in Alto de San Pablo while gasoline and propane gas were being pumped to Bucaramanga. We have a report now from Teresa Rueda.

[Begin recording] [Rueda] Communications to and from Puerto Petrolero and Bucaramanga have been cut off since early today, after an attempt to dynamite the multipurpose pipeline destroyed a 100-meter section of the central highway.

The supply of gas to Bucaramanga will also be affected by this event. It is estimated that it will take at least 3 days to restore normal traffic, because it will be necessary to use dynamite to remove rocks currently blocking the highway.

The attempted sabotage occurred at the 65-km mark on the Bucaramanga - Barrancabermeja highway, 20 km from the place where a military convoy was ambushed last Wednesday. This is the second time that an attempted sabotage of the Bucaramanga - Barrancabermeja multipurpose pipeline, which carries propane gas, gasoline, and ACPM [not further identified] has taken place. The explosion destroyed a 30-meter section of pipeline, and sparked a fire that has not yet been extinguished.

Losses caused by the sabotage, which has been attributed to the ELN, have yet to be ascertained. It is estimated that repairs to the highway alone will cost the Public Works Ministry 5 million pesos.

[Ismael Orozco, public works director for the 5th District] Well, after initial talks with Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] technicians today, beginning at 1700, after the fire is under control, they will begin restoring service on the oil pipeline.

[Rueda] At this time, there is traffic congestion near the Sugamoso bridge. [end recording] [passage omitted]

While still on the subject, Ecopetrol's president, who traveled this morning to Barrancabermeja to attend a forum on the Magdalena River, reported that, so far this year, terrorist attacks have cost his company $300 million. We have this report from Maria Clara Gracia.

[Begin recording] [Gracia] ECOPETROL has lost 95 billion pesos in revenues this year due to the 44 terrorist attacks on the Cano Limon - Covenas oil pipeline. In these attacks, 13.2 million barrels of crude oil have been lost. The areas most affected by these attacks are in Sucre, Arauca, Norte de Santander, and Santander Departments.

[Reporter Alvaro Ayala] Doctor, could these terrorist attacks lead to an increase in fuel prices in Colombia?

[Dr Andres Restrepo Londono, president of Ecopetrol] Obviously, there will come a time when, faced with increasing internal production costs and falling revenues, we are going to have to consider compensating our losses with an increase in domestic oil prices, but that is a measure we are not about to adopt at this time.

[Gracia] Today's landslide, which destroyed a section of the multipurpose pipeline between Barrancabermeja and Bucaramanga, has resulted in estimated losses totalling 1.435 billion pesos. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Guerrilla Ambush Results in 18 Army Casualties

PA0810015188 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas today publicly condemned the violent acts that various guerrilla groups are carrying out, and said the peasants, the poor, and our country's peace are the guerrillas' real victims.

In a message to the participants of a forum on the Rio Magdalena, President Barco described the subversive leaders as bureaucrats of violence, and stressed that no one believes anymore in their hollow words, adding that if they really want to return to democracy they should prove it with deeds.

Meanwhile, public disorders continue: In Cerrito, Santander a guerrilla column ambushed an Army convoy. This resulted in the deaths of several soldiers and rebels. Our Santander correspondent Maria Adelaida Rueda gives us more details:

[Begin Rueda recording] An undetermined number of guerrillas belonging to the Efrain Pabon Pabon Front, of the Camilist Union Army of National Liberation, yesterday attacked a group of soldiers at Cerrito, Santander. Of the 29 Army soldiers, only 11 escaped injury. Six were killed by shrapnel and most of the others were seriously wounded. [end recording] [passage omitted]

FARC 'Willing' To Release Abducted Policemen

PA1110010888 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Report by Carlos Mario Diaz]

[Text] The Commission for Democratic Coexistence met this morning to study the terms of its mediation in the release of 17 [as heard] policemen, who were kidnapped by FARC in San Pablo Bolivar last week, and 11 other policemen kidnapped in Vinca, Magdalena Department.

Colombian Msgr Dario Castrillon received a FARC petition this week asking for the mediation of the Commission for Democratic Coexistence in the release of the 17 policemen kidnapped by that rebel group during a FARC incursion in San Pablo Bolivar.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Msgr Castrillon told us he had news from FARC. The FARC forces told Msgr Castrillon they are willing to release the abducted policemen with the mediation of the Commission for Democratic Coexistence.

[Second unidentified speaker] The FARC forces, which kidnapped over 20 policemen and soldiers, asked the Commission for Democratic Coexistence—specifically the commission's coordinating board—to receive those soldiers and policemen.

We believe we should do what FARC is requesting, because it is a humanitarian action. [end recording]

Five Killed in Police Helicopter Crash

PA0810233688 Paris AFP in Spanish 2235 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Bucaramanga, Colombia, 8 Oct (AFP)—Five people, including a priest, were killed today when the Colombian police helicopter in which they were traveling crashed for unknown reasons, the Civil Aeronautics Department said.

The tragic event took place 60 meters from the runway of Palonnegro Airport in this capital of Santander Province while the helicopter was returning from an official mission.

Santander is a high-risk area where pro-Cuban Army of National Liberation (ELN) guerrillas operate. During the past week, they have attacked three villages and ambushed military patrols.

The victims were Father Miguel Salamanca, the Bucaramanga police chaplain; the pilot, Captain Manuel Vidago; Luis Aguilar; Constanza Gomez; and policewoman Elizabet Bustos.

This year, three police helicopters have been involved in tragic accidents in Colombia. Tolima Province Governor Juan Tole Lis was killed in a crash at the beginning of the year.

The Civil Aeronautics Department and the National Police have announced that they are investigating the accident, because the aircraft took a dive just when it was about to land at the Palonegro runway.

Relations Established With Africa, Asia Nations

PA0710173388 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Oct 88 p 3-A

[Text] The government has continued what appears to be a diplomatic offensive to expand Colombia's diplomatic relations, especially in Africa and the Pacific.

The Foreign Ministry reported that today, Colombia will establish diplomatic relations with the Yemen Arab Republic, the Comoros, Somalia, Sudan, and Bahrain.

Relations with Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Laos, and Guinea were established last week. Colombia also established diplomatic relations with Burkina Faso, Liberia, Mali, Togo, and Chad a few days ago. Most of these nations are in Africa, the "black continent." The Barco administration also has shown interest in reaching out to the Pacific market, which offers great economic potential.

The Barco administration has established relations with 28 countries, mostly Third World countries and Nonaligned Movement members.

Colombia presently has diplomatic relations with 134 countries, up from 106 nations when President Barco took office.

Establishing relations with these nations are part of a Foreign Ministry reorganization. The ministry's reorganization aims to fulfill the country's present needs and to halt a trend of appointing ambassadors to repay political favors.

The Foreign Ministry has had fewer changes than any other ministry since President Barco took office. Colonel Julio Londono Paredes has been in charge of the Foreign Ministry since the beginning of the Barco administration. He is a former Foreign Ministry employee and an expert on border disputes.

Paraguay

Deputies Refuse To Meet With FRG Deputies

PY0810142888 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 8 Oct 88 p 8

[Excerpt] Freimut Duve, an FRG Social Democratic Party deputy, was unable to meet with the Paraguayan Chamber of Deputies yesterday. The meeting was canceled at the last minute because of remarks Duve made last night about the situation in Paraguay.

The meeting between Duve and Chamber First Vice President Martin Chiola and the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies was scheduled for 0930. However, when the visitor arrived at the congressional building, the press director told him that the meeting would not take place. The Paraguayan deputies chose not to have anything to do with their FRG counterpart, who harshly criticized the Paraguayan Government shortly after his arrival.

The FRG deputy made a sttement in front of the congressional building. He said, among other things, that he is concerned over the restrictions on Paraguayan citizens' freedom. He also drew a parallel between the communist police in Czechoslovakia and the Paraguayan police because the latter prevented Domingo Laino [president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party] from receiving guests at his residence on the evening of Thursday 6 October.

Duve also mentioned that as foreigners, "criminals from all over the world are able to enter Paraguay, buy land and come and go as they please," while Paraguayan citizens face restrictions.

Duve labeled the political regime in Paraguay as anachronistic. All these remarks prompted an immediate negative reaction from the lawmakers of the ruling Colorado Party. [passage omitted]

Laino Arrested, FRG Deputy Duve Involved

PY0810145888 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Domingo Laino, president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], was arrested at noon yesterday on the corner of Sebastian Gaboto and Estados Unidos while waiting to met Freimut Duve, an FRG Social Democratic Party deputy. The two politicians were planning to go to the Fifth Police Precinct Station located nearby to visit Chilean citizen Rafael Mella Latorre, who is being held in that police station.

At 1230, when the two politicians were scheduled to meet, two heavy police cordons blocked traffic on the streets that give access to the police station and when Laino arrived, a uniformed policeman told him that he could not enter and asked him to leave. The PLRA president said he would wait for the FRG deputy for a short while, but as Laino was going to his car some 12 policemen surrounded him and arrested him.

Laino tried to shake the policemen off and asked what was going on, but he was taken by the arms and pushed into a waiting police car.

FRG Deputy Duve arrived shortly afterwards and told the policemen that Laino was his guest and that Laino's arrest was an offense to him and to the FRG Government. At that point an incident took place because the police officer in charge of the operation asked the FRG deputy to identify himself. Duve answered: "I want your identification, too, because I will show you my diplomatic passport." Once the policeman noted the deputy's personal information another brief discussion ensued and the policeman grabbed Duve by his arm and forced him to leave the location.

PLRA Executive Board members were told last night that Laino is being held incommunicado at the Special Security Prison.

Released After 3-Day Arrest

PY1010230388 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 10 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Police released Domingo Laino this morning after keeping him in custody at the Special Security Prison for almost 3 days. Laino was arrested by agents of the Fifth Police Precinct on 8 October during an incident in which FRG Deputy Freimut Duve was pushed around.

"We wanted to see Alejandro Mella Latorre for humanitarian reasons. I heard that the deputy (Duve) was pushed around just as I was. The agents took me to the Central Police Station where I stayed for a few hours before being taken to the usual detention center for politicians and where I have been taken many times before: The Special Security Prison," Laino said after his release.

"I was detained at the prison until this morning when I was released. At no time did anyone tell me why I had been arrested," Laino said.

Regarding the incident with FRG Deputy Duve, Laino "apologized to the FRG ambassador, charge d'affairs, and people for the affront against this illustrious FRG citizen who is a member of parliament and was legally elected in his country as a representative of the FRG people. On behalf of the Paraguayan democratic conscience I apologize to this great FRG democrat," Laino said.

"In the past few days I heard militant Stroessnerist senators and deputies saying that they disagreed with the aggressive attitude of some leaders of the interior of the country. I thought things were going to change. However, the aggression we suffered proved I was wrong. The incident really surprised me. I think it conveys a very negative impression," Laino concluded.

Foreign Minister Begins Trip to Taiwan

PY0710123488 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 11

[Text] Yesterday Foreign Minister Rodney Elpidio Acevedo traveled to the Republic of China to fulfill an official mission entrusted to him by President Alfredo Stroessner. Acevedo will represent our government in the Double Ten national day celebrations and will sign two loan agreements.

The loan agreements will include a $5-million agreement for the construction of the Education Ministry building and a $5-million agreement for the purchase of equipment for a fertilizer plant.

After these commitments are fulfilled, Minister Acevedo will travel to New York to participate in the UN General Assembly meetings.

Loan Agreements Signed

PY1010224588 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 10 Oct 88 p 12

[Summary] Today in Taiwan Paraguayan Foreign Minister Rodney Elpidio Acevedo signed two agreements by which the Republic of China will loan Paraguay $10 million for the construction of an Education Ministry building, and the installation of a fertilizer processing plant.

European Parliament Members Visiting

PY1010175088 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Oct 88 p 8

[Excerpt] Spanish Deputy Manuel Medina, member of the European Parliament, said during a meeting yesterday that the European Parliament "is now clearly interested in dedicating more attention to Paraguay." The meeting was held at the Casa del Pueblo [Febrerista Revolutionary Party headquarters in Asuncion]. Medina explained that the European Parliament members currently visiting the country "are not here to judge Paraguay, its government, or its opposition; we simply want to obtain data on the country and transmit it."

Portuguese Socialist Deputies Jose Medeiros Ferreiro and Luis Marinho also attended yesterday's meeting. [passage omitted]